

Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act (H.R. 2713)

ACTION

- > Cosponsor H.R. 2713, the *Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act*.

ISSUE

- > For the last 50 years, the Title VIII nursing workforce development programs at the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) have provided training for entry-level and advanced degree nurses to improve the access to, and quality of, health care in underserved areas.
- > The Title VIII programs are evidence-based, cost-effective best practices that hold substantial promise for mitigating the complex factors contributing to the current and expected nurse and nurse faculty shortages.

RATIONALE

- > H.R. 2713 would reauthorize the Title VIII programs through fiscal year 2020.
- > H.R. 2713 amends the statute with four technical modernizations that would align with current nursing roles and practice.
 1. Include a definition of the Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) in the Advanced Education Nursing Grants program [42 U.S.C. S 296j]. CNSs are graduate-prepared nurses who specialize in a specific area of practice defined by a population, setting, or disease type. As one of the four APRN roles, these changes would align with the APRN Consensus Model.
 2. Add CNSs among the list of nursing specialties to serve on the National Advisory Council on Nurse Education and Practice [42 U.S.C. S 297t].
 3. Amend the Advanced Education Nursing grants program [42 U.S.C. S 296j] to include the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) in the definition of advanced education nurses. CNLs are graduate-prepared nurses who lead in the coordination of patient care by evaluating patient outcomes, assessing cohort risk, and redirecting patient care plans as necessary. Including CNLs would provide them equal opportunity to participate in the AEN grants program with other graduate degree programs that can apply for these dollars.
 4. Add Nurse-Managed Health Clinics (NMHCs) to the list of eligible entities in the definition section of the Title VIII statute [42 U.S.C. S 296]. NMHCs are recognized as a key example of efficient and cost-effective healthcare. NMHCs are effective in providing individualized primary care that includes health promotion, disease prevention and early detection, health screenings and teaching, management of chronic and acute care, and counseling. These care sites often focus on populations that face provider or service shortages and also serve as clinical training sites for nursing and other health professions students.
- > H.R. 2713 ensures the Title VIII nursing workforce development programs will continue to address the specific needs of the nursing and nurse faculty workforces as well as patients in our communities.