



September 24, 2014

The Honorable Sherrod Brown  
United States Senate  
713 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Brown:

On behalf of the 45 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community coalition, we write in support of the Ensuring Access to Primary Care for Women & Children Act (S. 2694). Collectively, our organizations represent nearly one million registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), nurse faculty, researchers, and students, and we are committed to promoting efforts that advance the health of our nation through nursing care. Your legislation addresses a critical step toward ensuring access to primary care services for Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) beneficiaries, and we applaud the inclusion of APRNs as key health providers in this national effort.

Currently, the Medicaid payment rate that has been temporarily aligned with the Medicare payment rate is set to expire on December 31, 2014. Recognizing the high demand for primary care services, S. 2694 would ensure that this temporary rate for Medicaid and CHIP is sustained through December 31, 2016. In addition, the bill includes nurse practitioners (NPs), certified nurse-midwives (CNMs), and physician assistants as eligible providers to receive this payment rate so that these clinicians are able to maximize their contributions to the primary care arena.

Again, thank you for introducing the Ensuring Access to Primary Care for Women & Children Act, which will help ensure that Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries are not denied the high-quality services that NPs and CNMs offer. If our organizations can be of assistance, please contact Convener of the Nursing Community, Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, at [Smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu](mailto:Smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu) or 202-463-6930, ext. 247.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses  
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing  
American Academy of Nursing  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Critical-Care Nurses  
American Association of Heart Failure Nurses

American Association of Neuroscience Nurses  
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists  
American Association of Nurse Practitioners  
American College of Nurse-Midwives  
American Nurses Association  
American Organization of Nurse Executives  
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association  
American Psychiatric Nurses Association  
American Society for Pain Management Nursing  
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses  
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators  
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care  
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses  
Association of Public Health Nurses  
Association for Radiologic and Imaging Nursing  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service  
Dermatology Nurses' Association  
Developmental Disabilities Nurses Association  
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association  
Infusion Nurses Society  
International Society of Nurses in Genetics  
International Society of Psychiatric Nursing  
National American Arab Nurses Association  
National Association of Hispanic Nurses  
National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners  
National Association of Neonatal Nurses  
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Association of School Nurses  
National Black Nurses Association  
National Gerontological Nursing Association  
National Nursing Centers Consortium  
National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing  
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties  
Oncology Nursing Society  
Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society  
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association  
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates



September 24, 2014

The Honorable Patty Murray  
United States Senate  
154 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

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