



September XX, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives  
H-232, US Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-230, US Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
H-204, US Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-221, US Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McConnell, Leader McCarthy, and Leader Schumer:

On behalf of the XX undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC), we write today in support of the Future Advancement of Academic Nursing (FAAN) Act (S.4396/H.R.7945). Throughout this pandemic, the NCC has highlighted many shared legislative priorities to support the safety of nurses on the frontlines through increased investments in public health, personal protective equipment, research, and technology. As a cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the nursing profession, the FAAN Act aligns with the NCC's work and mission by supporting the cornerstone of the profession, nursing education during this pandemic and as we prepare for future public health threats. Therefore, the NCC strongly encourages Congress to include the Future Advancement of Academic Nursing (FAAN) Act (S.4396/H.R.7945) in the next COVID-19 legislative package.

This bicameral legislation was introduced by Senate Nursing Caucus Co-Chair, Senator Jeff Merkley, and our two Registered Nurses in Congress, Representatives Lauren Underwood and Eddie Bernice Johnson. This legislation would provide vital federal investments to ensure nursing education pipelines remain strong, not only during COVID-19, but for the frontline nurses of future health crises as well. In fact, the FAAN Act aims to provide federal resources to schools of nursing where it is needed the most, such as in medically underserved locations, health professional shortage areas, or a Minority Serving Institutions.

Specifically, the FAAN Act would support the needs of nursing students, help retain and hire diverse faculty, and provide resources to modernize nursing education infrastructure. One critically important aspect of this legislation is that it promotes new opportunities for schools of nursing to partner with nurse-managed health clinics, community health centers, and other health care facilities to create and expand clinical education opportunities. These efforts are

essential as colleges and universities continue to contend with the hardships of this pandemic and will better prepare nursing students as they transition from the classroom to bedside.

As Congress considers the next COVID-19 package, and we continue to strive to educate the next generation of frontline nursing leaders, we strongly encourage you to include the Future Advancement of Academic Nursing (FAAN) Act (S.4396/H.R.7945) in the next stimulus relief legislation. If the Nursing Community Coalition can be of any assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact the coalition's Executive Director, Rachel Stevenson, at [rstenenson@thenursingcommunity.org](mailto:rstenenson@thenursingcommunity.org) or at 202-463-6930, ext. 271.

Sincerely,

CC:

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer

House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn

House Minority Whip Steve Scalise

Senate Majority Whip John Thune

Senate Minority Whip Richard Durbin

Chairman Lamar Alexander, Senate HELP Committee

Ranking Member, Patty Murray, Senate HELP Committee

Chairman Frank Pallone, House Energy & Commerce Committee

Ranking Member, Greg Walden, House Energy & Commerce Committee