



New Jersey Association of Public Health Nurse Administrators, Inc.

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March 27, 2017

Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Representative of the 30th District of Texas
2468 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: H.R. 1651 The National Nurse Act of 2017

Dear Congresswoman Johnson,

The New Jersey Association of Public Health Nurse Administrators, Inc. [hereinafter NJAPHNA], wish to express our support of H.R. 1651 The National Nurse Act of 2017. In particular, NJAPHNA concurs with and opines that the office of the Surgeon General with its already vested position of the Chief Nurse Officer (CNO), a Registered Professional Nurse herein, is the proper vehicle to launch this very important initiative.

NJAPHNA, is the voice of professional Public Health Nurses and Public Health Nurse Administrators and represents the interests of Public Health Nurses within the State of New Jersey. Public Health Nursing is a multivariate practice discipline that encompasses and focuses on populations outside of formal hospital and institutional settings, i.e., community nursing, parish nursing, school nursing, visiting nurses et.al. Our goals include achieving the (10) ten mandates of public health e.g., proactive health maintenance through health education, screenings and disease prevention, advocating for and seeking access to resources for those that are disenfranchised or marginalized by socioeconomic forces outside of their control.

H.R. 1651 provides for the elevation of the Chief Nursing Officer within the Surgeon General's Office, including a report to Congress on the Commissioned Corps Nursing Category, and provides for the CNO to be the advocate and the face of Nursing that will address the health care demands of our nation.

We, in NJAPHNA, appreciate and commend you for your tireless effort and work in advancing the visibility of nursing and the important goals of public health in our nation. Thank you for your courtesies and consideration in this matter. And we thank you for your service.

Respectfully Submitted,



Deborah Gash, MS, PHCNS-BC