



October 18, 2018

The Honorable Ed Markey
United States Senate
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rand Paul
United States Senate
167 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maggie Hassan
United States Senate
330 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
United States Senate
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Markey, Paul, Hassan, and Collins,

On behalf of the Nursing Community Coalition, we would like to express our deepest appreciation for your commitment and dedication to the provision *Allowing for More Flexibility with Respect to Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorders* (Section 3201) included within the passage of the final opioid package. Originally outlined in the *Addiction Treatment Access Improvement Act* (S. 2317), which you introduced, Section 3201 will ensure improved access to life-saving treatments for those suffering from substance use disorders.

The members of the NCC are the cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the nursing profession and fully support the inclusion of Advance Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) as critical providers working to curb the opioid epidemic. Section 3201 will enable APRNs, often sole providers of care in rural and medically underserved areas that struggle to recruit and retain health professionals, to become critical agents in treating patients with substance use disorders.

Again, we commend your work to introduce the *Addiction Treatment Access Improvement Act*, and your sustained efforts to see its provisions included in the final opioid package. We appreciate your continued support of America's nurses and hope to work with you on similarly vital legislation in the future. If the Nursing Community Coalition can be of any assistance to you please do not hesitate to contact the coalition's Executive Director, Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, at smiyamoto@aacnnursing.org.

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

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American Association of Nurse Assessment Coordination
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Nephrology Nurses Association
American Nurses Association
American Nursing Informatics 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 for Radiologic and Imaging Nursing
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses
Association of Public Health Nurses
Association of Veterans Affairs Nurse Anesthetists
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service
Dermatology Nurses' Association
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association
Infusion Nurses Society
International Association of Forensic Nurses
International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
National Association of Hispanic Nurses
National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners
National Association of Neonatal Nurses
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Black Nurses Association
National Council of State Boards of Nursing
National League for Nursing
National Nurse-Led Care Consortium
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs
Oncology Nursing Society
Organization for Associate Degree Nursing
Society of Pediatric Nurses
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society

