

December 10, 2019

The Honorable Anna Eshoo
Chairman
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Michael Burgess
Ranking Member
2322 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Eshoo and Ranking Member Burgess:

Various iterations of Medicare for All bills have been debated in Congress and will continue to be introduced as members continue to discuss access to health care and the rising costs of care. The American Nurses Association (ANA) supports a health care system that ensures:

- Access to a package of essential health care services for all citizens and residents;
- Optimization of primary, community based and preventative services;
- Cost effective use of innovative, technology driven, acute, hospital based services; and
- Sufficient supplies of skilled health care professionals dedicated to providing high quality health care services.

While Medicare for All bills try to address some of these foundational principles, ANA is concerned about the potential negative impact on APRNs and RNs in some of these legislative proposals including decreased reimbursement for the quality care they are providing. Some versions do not incorporate the role of the nurse to provide input on safe staffing levels. For many communities, APRNs are the sole provider and access point to health care services and these proposals do not recognize the value and quality care they provide across the country. ANA will continue to monitor legislation and advocate for a health care system that meets the needs of communities and the providers that serve each and every person across the country.

The American Nurses Association is the premier organization representing the interests of the nation's 4.1 million registered nurses. ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting a safe and ethical work environment, bolstering the health and wellness of nurses, and advocating on health care issues that affect nurses and the public. ANA is at the forefront of improving the quality of healthcare for all.

Sincerely,



Ingrida Lusic
Vice President, Policy and Government Affairs