



Charles N. Kahn III
President and CEO

July 10, 2019

The Honorable Anna Eshoo, Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Health
House Committee on Energy & Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Michael Burgess, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Health
House Committee on Energy & Commerce
2322 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Eshoo and Ranking Member Burgess:

On behalf of the Federation of American Hospitals (FAH), I am pleased to offer our strong support for *H.R. 728, Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019* and for the amendment being offered by Representative Matsui which makes important modifications to the underlying legislation, including ensuring that all nurses practicing in critical shortage facilities have the opportunity to benefit from the loan repayment programs authorized in the legislation.

The FAH is the national representative of more than 1,000 investor-owned or managed community hospitals and health systems throughout the United States. Our members include hospitals in urban and rural America, as well as inpatient rehabilitation, psychiatric, long-term acute care, and cancer hospitals.

Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019 will extend critical nursing workforce development programs that invest in the education and training of our nation's nurses. This legislation will play a vital role in ensuring that nurses continue to provide high-quality care to patients across the nation, including in rural and underserved communities, by supporting nursing education, practice, recruitment, and retention.

We further offer our support for the inclusion of the Matsui amendment into the underlying legislation. The Matsui amendment is critical to ensuring that all nurses in critical shortage facilities are eligible for the loan repayment program.

We thank you for your leadership in advancing this legislation and urge support for the amendment offered by Representative Matsui. We look forward to working with you to secure the amended legislation's passage through the full Committee and House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Walden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and "W".

cc: The Honorable Frank Pallone, Chairman, House Energy & Commerce Committee
The Honorable Greg Walden, Ranking Member, House Energy & Commerce Committee
The Honorable Doris Matsui
The Honorable David Joyce