November 6, 2013

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.                        The Honorable George Miller
U.S. House of Representatives                        U.S. House of Representatives
2426 Rayburn House Office Building                        2205 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515                                      Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Conyers and Representative Miller,

On behalf of the American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA), I am writing to express our support for the Nurse and Health Care Worker Protection Act of 2013 (H.R. 2480).

ANNA promotes excellence in and appreciation of nephrology nursing so we can make a positive difference for people with kidney disease. We are the only professional association that represents nurses who work in all areas of nephrology. Established as a nonprofit organization in 1969, ANNA has a membership of approximately 10,000 registered nurses in almost 100 local chapters across the United States. Members practice in all areas of nephrology, including hemodialysis, chronic kidney disease, peritoneal dialysis, acute care, and transplantation. Most of our members work in freestanding dialysis units, hospital outpatient units, and hospital inpatient dialysis units.

ANNA is committed to promoting safe workplace initiatives for registered nurses and staff. H.R. 2480 takes critical steps to protect the safety of our nation’s nurses, health care workers, and their patients. Safe patient handling, mobility, and injury prevention is essential in providing the highest quality of care to patients. It is also critical to safeguard the health and safety of our nation’s health care workforce. To ensure a robust and well-trained workforce ready to care for patients, we must ensure that the proper safety requirements are in place.

Again, thank you for introducing H.R. 2480 and for your support of nursing. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact me or have your staff contact ANNA’s health policy consultant Jim Twaddell at (202) 230-5130 or jim.twaddell@dbr.com.

Sincerely,

Norma Gomez, MBA, MSN, RN, CNN
ANNA President