



January 27, 2012

The Honorable Max Baucus
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Finance
511 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Finance
104 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Baucus and Ranking Member Hatch,

The 49 undersigned members of the Nursing Community, a forum comprised of national professional nursing associations that builds consensus and advocates on a wide spectrum of healthcare and nursing issues, would like to express our overwhelming support of Marilyn Tavenner, RN, MHA, for the position of Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). With great respect for Ms. Tavenner's exceptional qualifications, we are enthusiastic to see her nomination to this federal leadership role.

Collectively, the Nursing Community represents over 850,000 Registered Nurses, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, nurse executives, nursing students, nursing faculty, and nurse researchers. Our organizations are committed to improving the health and health care of our nation while working with federal leadership to achieve these goals. We believe Ms. Tavenner embodies the qualities needed to be a successful leader of CMS. As a former practicing nurse and hospital administrator, Ms. Tavenner understands the scope of our complex health care delivery system. Her extensive experience and broad knowledge base gained from serving as former Virginia Secretary of Health and Human Resources as well as Acting Administrator and Principal Deputy Administrator for CMS demonstrate her ability to serve as a catalyst for improving quality, safety, and cost-effectiveness at the point of care delivery.

The Nursing Community appreciates your consideration of Ms. Tavenner's nomination as Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. We believe strongly that Ms. Tavenner's expertise and merits will provide CMS with the leadership needed to guide our healthcare system during this time of great change. Please do not hesitate to contact Suzanne Miyamoto, at smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu, or at 202-463-6930, ext. 247 if the Nursing Community can offer additional accolades for Ms. Tavenner, a remarkable voice for healthcare quality and redesign.

Sincerely,
Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing

American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
American Academy of Nursing
American Assembly for Men in Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Critical-Care Nurses
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
American Association of Nurse Assessment Coordination
American College of Nurse Practitioners
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Nephrology Nurses' Association
American Nurses Association
American Organization of Nurse Executives
American Psychiatric Nurses Association
American Society for Pain Management Nursing
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses
Asian American and Pacific Islander Nurses Association
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of State and Territorial Directors of Nursing
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
Infusion Nurses Society
International Nurses Society on Addictions
International Society of Nurses in Genetics
International Society of Psychiatric Nursing
National American Arab Nurses Association
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners
National Association of Neonatal Nurses
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of School Nurses
National Black Nurses Association
National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurse Associations
National Gerontological Nursing Association
National Nursing Centers Consortium
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs
Oncology Nursing Society
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
Public Health Nursing Section, American Public Health Association
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society

CC: Senator John D. Rockefeller
Senator Kent Conrad
Senator Jeff Bingaman
Senator John F. Kerry
Senator Ron Wyden
Senator Charles E. Schumer
Senator Debbie Stabenow
Senator Maria Cantwell
Senator Bill Nelson
Senator Robert Menendez
Senator Thomas R. Carper
Senator Benjamin L. Cardin
Senator Chuck Grassley
Senator Olympia J. Snowe
Senator Jon Kyl
Senator Mike Crapo
Senator Pat Roberts
Senator Michael B. Enzi
Senator John Cornyn
Senator Tom Coburn
Senator John Thune
Senator Richard Burr