May 19, 2016

The Honorable Roger Wicker  
The Honorable Jeff Merkley  
United States Senate  
United States Senate  
555 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
313 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Wicker and Merkley,

On behalf of the 48 undersigned organizations, we would like to thank you for introducing Senate Resolution 467 - *Supporting the goals and ideals of National Nurses Week, to be observed from May 6, through May 12, 2016*. Collectively, the Nursing Community represents over one million Registered Nurses (RNs), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), nurse executives, students, faculty, and researchers. Our organizations work to promote efforts that advance the health of our nation through nursing care.

With over three million licensed professionals, nurses are integral members of the healthcare team who work collaboratively to ensure the delivery of high-quality care to America’s patients. RNs and APRNs work across a variety of care settings, expanding care services in all communities, in every corner of the country. Nurses continue to be a monumental force in advancing health locally and globally.

This year’s theme of Nurses Week, *Culture of Safety,* is more than just a theme for the week. Nurses have been pioneers in discovering and providing evidence-based care services with the highest regard for safety. As stated in your resolution, “nurses are leading in the delivery of quality care in a transformed health care system that improves patient outcomes and safety.”

Thank you for your support as long-standing champions of our profession and for recognizing America’s nurses. If our organizations can be of any assistance, please contact Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, at Smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu, or 202-463-6930, ext. 247.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses  
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing  
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 Heart Failure Nurses  
American Association of Neuroscience Nurses
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American Association of Occupational Health Nurses
American Association of Post-Acute Care Nursing
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Nephrology Nurses' Association
American Nurses Association
American Organization of Nurse Executives
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association
American Psychiatric Nurses Association
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses
Association for Radiologic and Imaging Nursing
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators
Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses
Association of Public Health Nurses
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service
Dermatology Nurses' Association
Emergency 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 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 Council of State Boards of Nursing
National Gerontological Nursing Association
National League for Nursing
National Nurse-Led Centers Consortium
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs
Oncology Nursing Society
Organization for Associate Degree Nursing
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society