ANNA’s Federal Legislative Agenda
118th Congress, 1st Session, 2023

Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Appropriations Requests

The Nursing Workforce Development Programs, administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), are instrumental in bolstering and sustaining the nation’s diverse nursing pipeline by addressing all aspects of nursing workforce demand. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projected that, by 2031, demand for RNs would increase 6%, illustrating an employment change of 195,400 nurses. ANNA supports the Nursing Community’s request of no less than $530 million in FY 2024 funding for HRSA’s Nursing Workforce Development Programs.

The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases’ (NIDDK) mission is to conduct and support medical research, research training, and disseminate science-based information on diabetes, endocrine and metabolic diseases, digestive diseases, nutritional disorders, obesity, and kidney, urologic, and hematologic diseases, along with population health research to improve people’s health and quality of life. NIDDK is the fifth largest institute at NIH. ANNA supports the Friends of NIDDK’s request of no less than $168 million over the FY 2023 level of funding for NIDDK in FY 2024.

The National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) focuses its research on reducing burdensome chronic illness, improving end of life care, and promoting patient-centered care across the lifespan. Nurse researchers and scientists are essential to developing new evidence-based care practices for all patients. Through increased investments in NINR, the institute can continue its vital work at the forefront of disease prevention, patient care, and recovery. ANNA supports the Nursing Community Coalition’s request of no less than $210 million for NINR in FY 2024.

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) funds critical research that generates data to monitor the health care landscape. AHRQ’s research helps ensure that the pipeline of new medical findings reach health care providers and provides them with necessary tools and training to care for patients. ANNA supports the Friends of AHRQ’s request of no less than $500 million for AHRQ in FY 2024.

KidneyX, is a public-private partnership to accelerate innovation in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of kidney diseases. Since its establishment in 2018, KidneyX has provided funding to nearly 67 innovators across 5 prize competitions for solutions ranging from implantable dialysis devices to new technologies that can exponentially decrease infections during dialysis. ANNA supports the kidney community’s request of no less than $25 million for KidneyX in FY 2024.

Information for this fact sheet comes from the legislation. If you have questions about these issues, please contact ANNA’s Health Policy Consultant Jim Twaddell at jwtwaddell@venable.com).
Authorizing Legislation

Improving Care and Access to Nurses (I CAN) Act (H.R. 2713) eliminates practice barriers that adversely affect Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) in states with full practice authority. H.R. 2713 permits ARPNs to provide more comprehensive health care services under Medicare and Medicaid including, but not limited to, ordering and supervising cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation, certifying therapeutic shoes for patients with diabetes, referring patients for medical nutrition therapy, certifying terminal illness for hospice eligibility, and performing mandatory assessments in skilled nursing facilities. ANNA joins with a broad group of national stakeholders in urging Members of Congress to cosponsor the Improving Care and Access to Nurses (I CAN) Act (H.R. 2713).

Improving Access to Workers’ Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act (H.R. 618 and S. 131) would expand access to care for federal employees by allowing those injured on the job to choose Nurse Practitioners (NPs) to diagnose medical conditions, certify injury and extent of disability, and oversee treatment and care. For federal employees living in rural and underserved areas that have limited healthcare options, H.R. 618 and S. 131 significantly improve access to high-quality, cost-effective care. Moreover, the bill honors patient choice by allowing federal employees to choose NPs as their preferred provider and helps injured federal employees return to work more quickly by increasing the number of providers who can practice. ANNA urges Members of Congress to cosponsor the Improving Access to Workers’ Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act (H.R. 618 and S. 131).

Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Workers Act (H.R. 2663 and S. 1176) would protect health care workers by requiring the U.S. Department of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard compelling health care and social services employers to develop a workplace violence prevention plan. The plan would be developed with participation from direct care employees and employee representatives. It would also be tailored and specific to conditions and hazards, including patient-specific risk factors, and risk factors specific to each work area or unit. Furthermore, H.R. 2663 and S. 1776 would mandate that an employer conduct an investigation after a workplace violence incident, risk, or hazard is identified to mitigate the likelihood reoccurrence. ANNA urges Members of Congress to cosponsor the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (H.R. 2663 and S. 1176).

Living Donor Protection Act (H.R. 2923 and S. 1384) would protect living organ donors and promote organ donation by prohibiting discrimination in the issuance, price, or benefit levels for life, disability, and long-term care insurance due solely based on an individual’s status as a living donor. This bill codifies protection for living donors under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and codifies an existing opinion letter issued by the U.S. Department of Labor. ANNA joins with a broad group of national stakeholders in urging Members of Congress to cosponsor the Living Donor Protection Act (H.R. 2923 and S. 1384).

The National Nursing Workforce Center Act (H.R. 2411 and S. 1150) seeks to stabilize and strengthen the national nursing workforce by funding a 2-year pilot program through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to support state-based nursing workforce centers. Additionally, H.R. 2411 and S. 1150 broaden HRSA’s authority to establish dedicated nursing research and technical assistance centers and improve data collections and standardization to help assess critical gaps within the nursing workforce. ANNA joins with a broad group of national stakeholders in urging Members of Congress to cosponsor the National Nursing Workforce Center Act of 2023 (H.R. 2411 and S. 1150).