



ANNA
American Nephrology
Nurses Association

Future Advancement of Academic Nursing (FAAN) Act (H.R. 6607 and S. 3435)

The American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA) is a nonprofit organization representing registered nurses and other healthcare professionals at all levels of practice. ANNA members work in settings such as chronic kidney disease management, peritoneal dialysis, hemodialysis, continuous renal replacement therapy, transplantation, industry, and government/regulatory agencies.

Background on the Issue

According to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) 41.3% of Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs), Vocational Nurses (VNs) and 9% of Registered Nurses (RNs) reported an intent to leave the workforce or retire within the next five years. The NCSBN also found that since 2022, more than 138,000 nurses have left the workforce, due to retirement, burnout, or stress. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) found that U.S. nursing schools turned away 80,162 qualified applications from baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs in 2024 due to an insufficient number of faculty, clinical sites, classroom space, clinical preceptors, and budget constraints. In October 2025, a total of 1,588 full-time faculty vacancies were identified in an AACN survey of 863 nursing schools with baccalaureate and/or graduate programs across the country.

Overview of the Legislation

The *Future Advancement of Academic Nursing Act* (FAAN) (H.R. 6607 and S. 3435) was introduced in the House and Senate on December 11, 2025. The bill is led by Representative Lauren Underwood (D-IL-14) and Senators Jeff Merkley (D-OR), and Adam Schiff (D-CA). The legislation addresses the nursing workforce shortages across the country by:

- Enhancing enrollment and retention of students, with a priority for students from disadvantaged backgrounds including racial or ethnic groups underrepresented in the nursing workforce, individuals from rural and underserved areas, low-income individuals, and first-generation college students.
- Hiring and retaining a diverse faculty to educate the future nursing workforce.
- Modernizing technological and educational infrastructure, including audiovisual or other equipment, simulation and augmented reality resources, telehealth technologies, and virtual and physical laboratories.
- Supporting nursing education, including creating and modernizing educational programs and curricula.
- Enhancing and expanding nursing programs that prepare nurse researchers and scientists.

Recommendation: ANNA encourages Members of Congress to cosponsor the *Ensuring Future Advancement of Academic Nursing Act* (FAAN) (H.R. 6607 and S. 3435).