September 26: Academy President Karen Cox spoke at the House of Representatives’ Gun Violence Prevention Task Force press conference, hosted by Representatives Lauren Underwood (D-IL), Mike Thompson (D-CA, Chair), Lucy McBath (D-GA), and Jahana Hayes (D-CT). Read more here.

October 3: The Academy and the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science (CANS) received a response from Francis S. Collins, MD, PhD, Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) regarding NIH’s search for a permanent Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR). In his letter, Dr. Collins thanked the Academy and CANS for supporting the search and has charged a new search committee to identify a pool of strong candidates to be considered. Dr. Collins encouraged the Academy and CANS to spread the word about the vacancy.

October 8: The Academy signed on to a United States Breastfeeding Committee (USBC) letter to Senators Richard Shelby (R-AL) and Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and Representatives Nita Lowey (D-NY) and Kay Granger (R-TX) supporting the increase of funding levels for the WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program for Fiscal Year 2020 to its fully authorized amount of $90 million. Read more here.

October 11: The Academy signed on to a USBC letter thanking Senators Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) and Deb Fischer (R-NE) for their upcoming introduction of the Friendly Airports for Mothers Expansion (FAME) Act. This is the Senate companion bill to the Small Airports Mothers’ Room Act (H.R. 3362), introduced in the House in June and which the Academy has also supported.

See You Next Week: 2019 Policy Conference
Join us at the Transforming Health, Driving Policy Conference on Thursday, October 24th - Saturday, October 26th. Representative Lauren Underwood (D-IL) will be presenting the opening keynote, Impact and Influence: The Power of Connecting with the Public on Thursday at 2:15 pm.

Not Registered? Onsite registration will be available during the conference. Learn more here.

INL Leadership Workshop & Luncheon

Social Entrepreneurship
Overcoming Challenges to Lead Change
2019 Leadership Workshop & Luncheon

Keynote: MOBILIZING INDIVIDUAL POWER FOR COLLECTIVE IMPACT

Representative Joseph Morelle (D-NY)
U.S. Congress
Representing the 25th District of New York

Join us at the Institute for Nursing Leadership's Leadership Luncheon and Workshop on Thursday, October 24th from 8:00am - 1:30pm. Representative Joseph Morelle (D-NY) will be presenting the opening keynote on his commitment to public policy at 9:00 am.

There is still time to register for the full event or for the luncheon only. Email Ellie Cook, Strategic Outreach Manager, at ecook@aannet.org to register before Friday, October 18. You will also be able to register onsite at the conference.

2019 Council Advanced Methods Conference

The 2019 Advanced Methods conference will explore the application of new and emerging sensor technology to nursing research. Not Registered? Onsite registration will be available during the conference. Learn more here.
Advancing Excellence in Long-Term Care Collaborative

- **September 23:** Putting "Value" Back in Value-Based Payment For Skilled Nursing Facilities
  - This white paper discusses the challenges in implementing value-based payment programs in long-term and post-acute care settings.

National Academy of Medicine (NAM)

- **September 25:** Integrating Social Care into the Delivery of Health Care: Moving Upstream to Improve the Nation's Health
  - This webinar will include an overview of the report, *Integrating Social Care into the Delivery of Health Care*, and discuss the key findings, recommendations, and messages.

- **October 23:** Taking Action Against Clinician Burnout: A Systems Approach to Professional Well-Being Report Release
  - This event will include an overview of the report and discussion of the report's key findings and recommendations regarding the causes of clinician burnout as well as the consequences for both clinicians and patients.

NIH Seeks Director for NINR

- The National Institutes of Health is seeking applications from exceptional candidates to be the next Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research. Learn more about the position [here](#).

Off the President's Desk

- **Executive Order on Modernizing Influenza Vaccines in the United States to Promote National Security and Public Health**
  On September 19, the President signed an executive order that promotes improved influenza vaccine immunization across the country's population through increased technologies and reduced barriers. The President also established a task force on the issue.

- **Executive Order on Protecting and Improving Medicare for Our Nation's Seniors**
  On October 3, the President signed an executive order to improve seniors' healthcare and the fiscal sustainability of Medicare through additional plan choices, access to telehealth
and new therapies, and time with providers. The order included provisions consistent with the Academy’s policy priorities on promoting innovation and sustainability in health care as well as reducing barriers. Section 5 would eliminate burdensome regulatory billing and supervision requirements. This directly impacts the ability of APRNs to practice to the full extent of their education and training.

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**Around the Administration**

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)**

- **Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder Playbook**
  - This newly-released playbook serves as a comprehensive guide for implementing MAT in primary care and other ambulatory care settings.

**Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)**

- **October 15-December 7: Medicare Open Enrollment**
  - During Open Enrollment, people with Medicare have until December 7 to review their health and drug plan options. Re-enrollment and plan changes will take effect on January 1, 2020.

**Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA)**

- **October 16, 2019: Virtual Job Fair**
  - HRSA Virtual Job Fairs are free online recruitment events that connect students and clinicians with health care delivery organizations.

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**From the Federal Register**

**Request for Information**

- **Administration for Children and Families, HHS: Improving Access to Affordable, High Quality Child Care**
  - This Request for Information seeks public comment on identifying emerging and innovative practices to improve access to high quality child care as well as identifying regulatory and other policies that unnecessarily drive up the cost of care or limit parents' choice of different child care options; and identifying ways to improve funding of child care and other related early education programs.

**Request for Nomination**

- **CDC, HHS: Solicitation of Nominations for Appointment to the Interagency Committee on Smoking and Health (ICSH)**
  - The ICSH consists of 5 experts in fields that represent private entities involved in informing the public about the health effects of smoking. Members may be invited to serve for four-year terms.
Congressional Hearings

Based on previous positions taken by the Academy, the following scan is meant for informational purposes and does not directly translate to Academy endorsement. Links provided allow you to watch the recordings and read witness testimony.

**House Appropriations**

- October 16: E-cigarettes: An Emerging Threat to Public Health

**House Armed Services**

- September 18: Shattered Families, Shattered Service: Taking Military Domestic Violence Out of the Shadows

**House Education & Labor**

- September 26: Making Health Care More Affordable: Lowering Drug Prices and Increasing Transparency
- October 17: Markup: H.R. 3, Lower Drug Costs Now Act of 2019
- October 22: Long Over Due: Exploring the Pregnant Workers' Fairness Act (H.R. 2694)

**House Energy & Commerce**

- September 19: Profits Over Consumers: Exposing How Pharmaceutical Companies Game the System
- September 19: Protecting Unaccompanied Children: The Ongoing Impact of the Trump Administration’s Cruel Policies
- September 25: Sounding the Alarm: The Public Health Threats of E-cigarettes
- September 25: Making Prescription Drugs More Affordable: Legislation to Negotiate a Better Deal for Americans
- October 16: Legislation to Reverse the Youth Tobacco Epidemic

**House Judiciary**

- October 16: Markup: H.R. 3942, the "Preventing Online Sales of E-Cigarettes to Children Act"; H.R. 886, the "Veteran Treatment Court Coordination Act of 2019"

**House Oversight and Reform**

- September 16: Environmental Injustice: Exploring Inequities in Air and Water Quality in Michigan
- September 24: Don't Vape: Examining the Outbreak of Lung Disease and CDC's Urgent Warning Not to Use E-Cigarettes

**House Veterans Affairs**

- September 18: Critical Impact: How Barriers to Hiring at VA Affect Patient Care and Access
- September 19: Preventing Harm to Veterans: Examining VA's Overpayments and Debt Collection Practices
- September 25: Mission Critical: Care in the Community Update
- September 25: Women Veterans' Task Force Roundtable: Breaking the Silence: Addressing Military Sexual Trauma in the Military and Veteran Communities
• October 16: Broken Promises: Assessing VA's Systems for Protecting Veterans from Clinical Harm
• October 17: Women Veterans' Task Force Roundtable Discussion: Trends and Opportunities in Interdisciplinary Research Regarding Women Veterans

House Ways & Means

• September 26: The Public Health Consequences and Costs of Gun Violence
• October 17: Investing in the U.S. Health System by Lowering Drug Prices, Reducing Out-of-Pocket Costs, and Improving Medicare Benefits

Senate Special Committee on Aging

• September 25: Promoting Healthy Aging: Living Your Best Life Long Into Your Golden Years
• October 16: Falls Prevention: National, State, and Local Solutions to Better Support Seniors

Senate Veterans Affairs

• September 25: Toxic Exposure: Examining the VA's Presumptive Disability Decision-Making Process

Legislative Schedule

The House is in session until October 31 with a district work period that will take place November 4-11. The House resumes on November 12. The Senate is in session through November 22, with a holiday on November 11.