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January 2026

## **Support the Nurses for Under-Resourced Schools Everywhere (NURSE) Act**

### **NASN Position**

NASN urges Congress to pass the bipartisan Nurses for Under-Resourced Schools Everywhere (NURSE) Act (H.R. 3262), introduced by Representative Dina Titus (D-NV) and Representative Jen Kiggins (R-VA), which would recognize the critical role of school nurses in providing students access to quality health care so that they are healthy, safe, and ready to learn.

### **Why It Matters**

- Millions of students lack access to a full-time school nurse.
- Where there are school nurses vary greatly by region of the country and from urban to rural.
- Health-related issues contribute significantly to absenteeism and academic gaps.
- Under-resourced communities face the greatest shortages in school nursing.
- Health care happens at schools.
- 87% of U.S. adults favor having a school nurse in every school.

### **Why School Nurses Are Essential**

- School nurses manage chronic illness, mental health needs, and emergency care.
- Where there is a school nurse there are higher graduation rates and attendance rates.
- They improve attendance, safety, and readiness to learn.
- They serve as the primary health care professional for many children in schools.

### **What Would It Do**

- Gives grants to Title I schools from the Department of Education for school nurses.
- Five year demonstration grant
- 25 percent would be contributed from states or localities

### **What Congress Should Do**

- Support and pass the NURSE Act.
- Invest in school nurse staffing in Title I schools.