

January 2026

Reauthorize Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs

NASN Position

NASN urges Congress to pass the bipartisan, bicameral Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2025 (S 1874/HR 3593) introduced by Senators Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Susan Collins (R-ME), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) in addition to Representatives David Joyce (R-OH), Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Jen Kiggans (R-VA) and Lauren Underwood (D-IL) who have helped to educate our nation's nursing workforce. The programs bolster nursing education at all levels, from entry-level preparation through graduate study, and support academic institutions and the nurse faculty who prepare today's nursing students to be tomorrow's expert clinicians.

Why It Matters

- Title VIII programs strengthen the nursing workforce pipeline nationwide.
- This program has been in existence for 50 years.
- They support nurse faculty, advanced education, and workforce diversity.
- They help address nursing shortages in rural and underserved communities.
- Due to faculty shortages and limited clinical space, many qualified nursing candidates are turned away from nursing schools.
- We must train the next generation of nurses.

Why School Nurses Are Essential

- They represent a critical workforce pipeline serving millions of students daily.
- Title VIII investments help prepare and sustain the school nurse workforce.
- School nurses are registered nurses practicing independently in school settings.

What Congress Should Do

- Cosponsor and pass the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2025.
- Ensure continued investment in nursing education through FY 2030.