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**NEWS RELEASE**



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## **The American Nurses Association (ANA) Welcomes the Formation of the SEIU's National Healthcare Union**

**SILVER SPRING, MD** — The American Nurses Association (ANA) welcomes the formation of the SEIU's national healthcare union and the new joint nurse staffing initiative recently announced by the ANA labor affiliate and associate organizational member, United American Nurses (UAN). ANA is the largest and most diverse professional nursing organization in the U.S. and represents the interests of the nation's 2.9 million registered nurses. Dedicated to ensuring that an adequate supply of highly-skilled and well-educated nurses is available, we embrace all the different strategies within the ANA family to achieve our common goals. ANA has taken the lead and has long worked to secure meaningful healthcare reform and appropriate staffing to protect both patients and nurses. For the past 17 years, ANA has supported universal health care with an emphasis on a single payer mechanism. ANA was the first to promote federal legislation to address the development of staffing ratios on a unit-by-unit basis. We have applied our principles of safe staffing in litigation initiated to enforce the RN staffing requirements for hospitals that participate in the Medicare Program. Nurses make the quality difference in patient care. To that end, we look forward to working with all stakeholders to advance the nursing profession, increase quality care and improve patient safety.

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*The ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 2.9 million registered nurses through its 54 constituent member nurses associations. The ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the rights of nurses in the workplace, projecting a positive and realistic view of nursing, and by lobbying the Congress and regulatory agencies on health care issues affecting nurses and the public.*