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**NEWS RELEASE**



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**\*\*\* MEDIA ADVISORY \*\*\***

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### **TITLE VIII FUNDING INCREASE FAILS TO PASS BY VETO PROOF MARGIN**

**Silver Spring, MD,** In a defeat for nursing advocates, the House of Representatives failed to pass the FY 2008 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act by a veto-proof margin. The final vote was 277-141. The legislation included an \$18 million increase for Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs to bring fiscal year 2008 funding to 167.7 million. Congressional leaders and the Bush Administration will continue budget negotiations

The legislation would provide funding for the nation's nursing education programs and recruit new nurses into the profession, promote career advancement within nursing and recruit nurses into critical shortage areas. In recent testimony on Capitol Hill before the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human services, Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR, President ANA argued for a funding increase "to save thousands of lives, and millions of dollars in health care costs linked to avoidable complications associated with the nursing shortage."

To learn more about Nursing Workforce Development Programs, or to get involved with ANA's legislative efforts, please visit, <http://www.nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/ANAPoliticalPower.aspx>.

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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."*

