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NEWS RELEASE



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THE AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION HOSTS SENATORS HILLARY CLINTON AND BARACK OBAMA AT ITS HOUSE OF DELEGATES

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SILVER SPRING, MD – The American Nurses Association was pleased to host Senator Hillary Clinton (D-NY) and Senator Barack Obama (D-IL) at its biennial House of Delegates Thursday, June 26 - Friday June 27, 2008. Senator Obama spoke to the ANA's House of Delegates by telephone.

"In this election year, America's 2.9 million nurses need to make their voices heard to make health care a priority. It came as no surprise to me that nearly 700 voting ANA delegates stood on their feet with loud applause for the persuasive and compelling speeches made by Senator Clinton and Senator Obama. America's nurses have strong advocates in these leaders and applauds both Senators for their historic campaigns," said ANA President Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR.

"I've served with Senator Obama now for nearly four years in the Senate. I campaigned with him for more than 16 months across our country. I debated with him in more debates than I can remember. I have seen his passion and determination and his grit and his grace. In his own life, he has lived the American Dream. It is so remarkable and I am very proud of the Democratic Party and I am very proud of my country that an African American and a woman were competing to become the president. I will be campaigning with Senator Obama tomorrow. We are going to a place very appropriately called Unity, New Hampshire. It's not only well named, but in the New Hampshire primary, both of us received exactly 107 votes. It pretty much mirrors the rest of the campaign where it was right down the middle. I hope that you will work with me and work with your colleagues to make sure we elect more Democrats to the House and the Senate and that we elect a Democratic president and that we get our country back on the right track," said Hillary Clinton.

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"I will be campaigning with Hillary Clinton. Rest assured, we will finally win the battle and achieve affordable health care for all Americans. Hillary Clinton will be central to that victory. We are committed to delivering the promise of affordable healthcare to all America. For too long we've let the drug companies and the insurance companies dictate health care in this country while they've spent billions of dollars lobbying and we have 47 million people uninsured in this country. Over the last eight years, under the Bush administration, we've not seen change. Basically, John McCain's plan is the same as the Bush plan. It provides no relief to those who have no health insurance. I believe in making certain that affordable health care is available to everyone," said Senator Barack Obama.

ANA's next House of Delegates will occur in June, 2010. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend.

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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.