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

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**ANA TESTIFIES ON CAPITOL HILL ON REGISTERED NURSE IMMIGRATION**

**Silver Spring, MD-** The American Nurses Association (ANA) testified on Capitol Hill Thursday, June 12 on the issue of registered nurse immigration. ANA senior policy fellow Cheryl Peterson, MSN, RN spoke before the Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law on the issue of foreign educated nurses.

“Over reliance on foreign educated nurses by the health care industry serves only to postpone efforts to address the needs of nursing students and the U.S. nursing workforce. ANA maintains that it is inappropriate to look overseas for nursing workforce relief when the real problem is the fact that Congress does not provide sufficient funding for domestic schools of nursing, the U.S. health care industry has failed to maintain a work environment that retains experienced U.S. nurses, and the U.S. government does not engage in active health workforce planning to build a sustainable nursing and health professions workforce for the future.” Cheryl Peterson, MSN, RN, ANA Senior Policy Fellow.

ANA urged lawmakers to support legislation that would increase funding domestically for nursing education and recruitment and promised to work with lawmakers, health care professionals and industry partners to seek solutions for the growing shortage and safe, quality health care for all Americans.

To view ANA’s testimony, please go here,

<http://www.nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/ANAPoliticalPower/Federal/Testimony.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."*