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NEWS RELEASE



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HOUSE, SENATE OVERRIDE PRESIDENTIAL VETO TO PASS MEDICARE BILL *Legislation includes increased payments to APRNs*

SILVER SPRING, MD – On Tuesday, July 15, Congress voted to override the President's veto of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (H.R. 6331). The House vote was 383-41, while the Senate voted 70-26 in favor of enacting H.R. 6331 into law. The legislation would reverse a 10.6 percent reduction in Medicare reimbursements for the nation's 240,000 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) and physicians, which took effect on July 1.

"ANA is gratified that Congress has renewed their support for maintaining reimbursement for APRNs and physicians, preventing a cut that could have severely limited access to care. We look forward to continuing our work with Congress on expanding access to quality care, as well as expanding and improving the medical homes demonstration project to include APRNs and health care practitioners," said ANA President Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR.

For more information on ANA's advocacy work on Capitol Hill, please visit

<http://www.nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/ANAPoliticalPower/Federal.aspx>

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ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the nation's 2.9 million Registered Nurses through its 54 constituent member associations. ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the economic and general welfare 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.