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**NEWS RELEASE**



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## **THE AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION JOINS COALITION URGING PASSAGE OF HEALTH REFORM**

**SILVER SPRING, MD-** The American Nurses Association (ANA), the largest nursing organization in the U.S., joined a coalition of organizations at an event on Capitol Hill today to urge Congress to pass health reform legislation now. The coalition unveiled a letter with signatures from over 200 national organizations appealing to lawmakers about the critical need for health reform, and encouraging support for the current reform legislation.

“If ever there was a time to trust a nurse—that time is now. Please trust me when I tell you that we can’t afford to put off reform for one more administration—one more political season—or even one more day.” ANA CEO Marla J. Weston, PhD, RN, commented during the Capitol Hill event. “This legislation will enact very real and much-needed insurance reforms; it will place a new focus on wellness and prevention, improving access to primary care and expanding coverage to over 30 million people.” In addition to the coalition letter, ANA sent a separate appeal to lawmakers warning of the cost of inaction, and advocating for a “Yes” vote on health reform. Read ANA’s letter [here](#).

ANA encourages its members to get involved in the health care reform effort and to contact their representatives in Congress to urge action through its dedicated Web page, [www.RNaction.org/healthcare](http://www.RNaction.org/healthcare).

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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 constituent member nurses associations, its organizational affiliates, and its workforce advocacy affiliate, the Center for American Nurses. 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.*