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NEWS RELEASE



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ANA PRESIDENT JOINS U.S. DELEGATION TO WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY, ADDRESSES INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES

SILVER SPRING, MD – The American Nurses Association (ANA), the largest nursing organization in the U.S., is honored to have its president, Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR, selected by the State Department to be a part of the U.S. Delegation to the 63rd World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland May 17-19. The World Health Assembly is the decision making body of the World Health Organization (WHO). Their annual meeting will focus on a number of public health issues, including the implementation of International Health Regulations, monitoring health-related Millennium Development Goals, and strategies to reduce the harmful use of alcohol.

President Patton will attend the assembly; she also addressed the International Council of Nurses (ICN) Conference on May 12, International Nurses Day. Her presentation, *Nurses Empowerment and Policy Making*, elucidated ANA's ongoing role in advocating for health reform, and provided strategies for all nurses to work toward policy changes in their communities. ANA is proud to be the U.S. representative to the ICN, and to have the association's efforts toward health reform acknowledged at both the national, and international levels.

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The ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 3.1 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.