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## NEWS RELEASE



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### **ANA RESPONDS TO PRESIDENT'S BUDGET PROPOSAL**

**SILVER SPRING, MD** – The American Nurses Association (ANA) supports the President's budget for fiscal year 2011, which clearly demonstrates his continued commitment to strengthening the nation's nursing workforce and improving access to health services. The \$509 million included for health professions programs includes \$244 million for increasing the capacity of the nurse workforce. These funds will go toward the recruitment, education, and retention of 20,000 nursing students and registered nurses and support over 1,370 loan repayments and scholarship awards.

In addition to workforce funding, the President's budget includes \$169 million, an increase of \$27 million above FY 2010, for the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) to improve access to health services. The program brings primary health providers, which includes nurse practitioners, to underserved areas in exchange for receiving a portion of their student loans paid off. In 2011, the requested increase will add 400 NHSC clinicians to the more than 8,100 that will be providing essential primary and preventative care services in health care facilities across the country. The budget allocates \$2.5 billion to health centers in order to provide affordable primary and preventive care to underserved and uninsured populations.

To learn more about ANA's advocacy on legislative and regulatory issues, please visit <http://www.nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/ANAPoliticalPower/Federal.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 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.*