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NEWS RELEASE



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ANA STATEMENT ON THE NOMINATION OF MARILYN TAVENNER TO HEAD CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES

SILVER SPRING, MD – The American Nurses Association (ANA) commends the White House for its decision to nominate Marilyn Tavenner, MHA, BSN, RN, to head the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Tavenner, a former ICU nurse, has served as Chief Executive Officer of the Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) and was Virginia’s secretary of Health and Human Resources under then-Governor Tim Kaine. Most recently, Tavenner worked as CMS’s principal deputy administrator.

“Marilyn Tavenner will make an excellent CMS administrator,” remarked ANA President Karen Daley, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN. “As a nurse, her focus is on improving care for the patient. ANA looks forward to working with Tavenner to implement the provisions of the Affordable Care Act so that Americans can benefit from a system that is more responsive to their need for accessible and high quality care.”

If approved through Senate confirmation, Tavenner will replace Don Berwick, MD, who was appointed by President Obama in July 2010. ANA commends Berwick for his work at CMS, most significantly as an innovator and catalyst for quality improvement.

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The American Nurses Association (ANA) is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 3.1 million registered nurses through its constituent and state nurses associations and its organizational affiliates. 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.