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**NEWS RELEASE**



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## **ANA TESTIFIES ON CAPITOL HILL**

**SILVER SPRING, MD** – The American Nurses Association (ANA) was on Capitol Hill today, June 24th, to testify before the House Ways and Means Committee on health care reform. Donna Policastro, RNP, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Nurses Association spoke on behalf of ANA at Wednesday’s committee hearing, “Proposals to Reform the Health System”.

Policastro stressed nurses’ willingness to work with policy-makers, industry leaders, providers and consumers to support and advance meaningful health care reform. She thanked the committee for recognizing the need for an integrated and well-resourced national healthcare workforce policy, a system that focuses on wellness and prevention and a high-quality public health insurance option that complements and competes fairly with options offered by private insurers. She also remarked on the valuable role Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) play in primary care, and the importance of recognizing Nurse Practitioners as providers in Medical Homes.

In addition to her leadership role at the Rhode Island Nurses Association, Policastro is also a member of the American Nurses Association PAC Board of Trustees. To read Donna Policastro’s complete testimony, please visit

<http://www.nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/ANAPoliticalPower/Federal/Testimony.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 51 constituent member nurses associations, its 24 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.*