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NEWS RELEASE



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ANA SUPPORTS LEGISLATION IMPROVING ACCESS TO CARE

SILVER SPRING, MD – The American Nurses Association (ANA) was on Capitol Hill Wednesday, May 20th, to speak in support of the Preserving Access to Primary Care Act of 2009 (H.R. 2350). ANA joined other primary care providers to applaud Rep. Allyson Schwartz (D-PA) and the nearly 100 other co-sponsors of the legislation which addresses the shortage of primary care providers and recognizes the integral role registered nurses and nurse practitioners play in the delivery of primary care. H.R. 2350 provides scholarship and loan repayment opportunities for primary care providers who serve in areas with critical shortages of primary care services. The legislation also would increase Medicare reimbursements for primary care providers and provide Medicare payments for care coordination services, as well as monthly payments to practices that serve as patient centered medical homes.

“ANA is proud to support this legislation and we look forward to working to make sure that Representative Schwartz’s vision for strengthening primary care becomes reality,” Rose Gonzalez, MPS, RN, ANA’s Director of Government Affairs remarked at the event. ANA was joined by representatives from the American College of Physicians, the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, American Academy of Family Physicians, the Association of American Medical Colleges, the National Physicians Alliance, American Osteopathic Association, National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, and the American Academy of Pediatrics in support of this legislation.

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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.