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NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 19, 2010

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ANA URGES PASSAGE OF HEALTH REFORM LEGISLATION

SILVER SPRING, MD – The American Nurses Association (ANA), the largest nursing organization in the United States, urges lawmakers to vote ‘yes’ on health care reform this weekend. This historic vote represents a rare chance to effect change that will positively impact people’s lives. This legislation will enact very real and much-needed insurance reforms, placing a new focus on wellness and prevention, improving access to primary care and expanding coverage to over 30 million people.

America’s nurses understand the cost of inaction - our patients can no longer afford to wait. The uninsured and underinsured continue to delay or forgo much-needed care; they continue to arrive in the emergency rooms across the country for conditions that could have been easily prevented with access to primary care—we are all paying a high price for inaction. Quality health care for all should not be a partisan or political issue.

ANA and nurses around the country hope that lawmakers will set politics aside and vote ‘yes’ this weekend to make much-needed, meaningful reform a reality. ANA encourages its members to continue their work in the health care reform effort through ANA’s dedicated Web page, www.RNaction.org/healthcare.

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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.