

ANNA's Federal Legislative Agenda 119th Congress, 1st Session (2025)

Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Appropriations Requests

The Nursing Workforce Development Programs, administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), are instrumental in bolstering and sustaining the nation's diverse nursing pipeline by addressing all aspects of nursing workforce demand. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects the demand for Registered Nurses (RNs) will increase 6% by 2033, and the demand for Advanced Practice Nurses (APRNs) is expected to grow by 40%. ANNA supports the Nursing Community's request of \$530 million in FY 2026 funding for HRSA's Nursing Workforce Development Programs.

The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases' (NIDDK) mission is to conduct and support medical research, research training, and disseminate science-based information on diabetes, endocrine and metabolic diseases, digestive diseases, nutritional disorders, obesity, and kidney, urologic, and hematologic diseases, along with population health research to improve people's health and quality of life. ANNA supports the highest funding level possible for funding for NIDDK in FY 2026.

The National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) focuses its research on reducing burdensome chronic illness, improving end of life care, and promoting patient-centered care across the lifespan. Nurse researchers and scientists are essential to developing new evidence-based care practices for all patients. Through increased investments in NINR, the institute can continue its vital work at the forefront of disease prevention, patient care, and recovery. ANNA supports the Nursing Community Coalition's request of \$210 million for NINR in FY 2026.

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) funds critical research that generates data to monitor the health care landscape. AHRQ's research helps ensure that the pipeline of new medical findings reach health care providers and provides them with necessary tools and training to care for patients. ANNA supports the Friends of AHRQ's request of \$500 million for AHRQ in FY 2026.

KidneyX is a public-private partnership between the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the American Society of Nephrology (ASN) tasked with accelerating innovation in preventing, diagnosing, and treating kidney diseases. KidneyX has provided 75 awards across six prize competitions for innovations including the artificial kidney and xenotransplant. **ANNA supports \$25 million in FY 2026 funding for KidneyX.**

Authorizing Legislation

Improving Care and Access to Nurses (I CAN) Act (H.R. 1317 and S. 575) eliminates practice barriers that adversely affect APRNs in states with full practice authority. The bill permits ARPNs to provide more comprehensive health care services under Medicare and Medicaid including, but not limited to, ordering, and supervising cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation, certifying therapeutic shoes for patients with diabetes, referring patients for medical nutrition therapy, certifying terminal illness for hospice eligibility, and performing mandatory assessments in skilled nursing facilities. ANNA joins with a broad group of national stakeholders in urging Members of Congress to cosponsor the Improving Care and Access to Nurses (I CAN) Act (H.R. 1317 and S. 575).

Organ Donation Referral Improvement Act (H.R. 330) requires the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) in the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct a study on hospitals' use of electronic automated referrals for organ donations. The legislation defines electronic automated referral as an electronic system that uses electronic health records to identify patients who are potential organ donors and automatically refers those patients to organ procurement organizations. In addition, under the bill the ASPE must include specified components in the study, including identifying benefits, reviewing best practices, and developing recommendations for the use of electronic automated referrals for organ donations. ANNA supports the Organ Donation Referral Improvement Act (H.R. 330) and encourages Members of Congress to cosponsor the legislation.

Providing Real-World Education and Clinical Experience by Precepting Tomorrow's (PRECEPT) Nurses Act (H.R. 392 and S. 131) provides a \$2000 tax credit to nurses who serve at least 200 hours as a clinical preceptor, with specific emphasis on those in a Health Professional Shortage Area. This bipartisan and bicameral bill underscores the importance of nurse preceptors as we address nursing shortages and increase the number of RNs and APRNS in our communities, especially in rural and underserved areas. ANNA and the Nursing Community Coalition support this legislation and encourages Members of Congress to cosponsor the PRECEPT Nurses Act (H.R. 392 and S. 131).

The Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (H.R. 2531 and S. 1232) directs the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to issue a standard requiring health care and social service employers to write and implement a workplace violence prevention plan to prevent and protect employees from violent incidents. ANNA joined with healthcare professional and social service organizations in support of the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (H.R. 2531 and S. 1232). ANNA encourages Members of Congress to cosponsor the legislation.

Restore Protections for Dialysis Patients Act (H.R. 2199) restores Medicare Secondary Payer Law protections by clarifying that a health plan cannot discriminate against dialysis patients by providing fewer dialysis services compared to other covered services for chronic diseases. In addition, the bill ensures people living with End Stage Kidney Disease can remain on their employer-sponsored health plans for 30 months before transitioning to Medicare as their primary insurer. ANNA supports the Restore Protections for Dialysis Patients Act (H.R. 2199) and encourages Members of Congress to cosponsor the legislation.