

March 17, 2015

The Honorable Jerry Moran
U.S. Senate
361A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

## **Dear Senator Moran:**

On behalf of the 42 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community, we thank you for introducing the Protecting Access to Rural Therapy Services (PARTS) Act (S. 257). Collectively, the Nursing Community represents over one million Registered Nurses, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), nurse executives, nursing students, nursing faculty, and nurse researchers. Our organizations are committed to improving the health and health care of our nation by collaborating to support advancements in nursing education and practice. The Nursing Community supports this legislation, which would allow certain outpatient therapeutic and diagnostic services to be provided under general supervision, rather than direct supervision, of a physician or certain non-physician practitioner.

The PARTS Act includes in its definition of "non-physician practitioner" the four APRN roles (nurse practitioner, certified registered nurse anesthetist, certified nurse-midwife, and clinical nurse specialist). The bill supports these clinicians to practice to the full extent of their education and training as defined by state law, as they provide high-quality care to our nation's rural communities. Moreover, by eliminating the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services current requirement that non-physician providers must be under direct supervision at the time services are furnished, S. 257 helps address healthcare provider shortages and increase the delivery of critical healthcare services to patients in rural settings.

The Nursing Community commends this legislation's effort to support APRN practice and ensure some of our nation's most vulnerable patients receive the services they need in a timely manner. If our organizations can be of any assistance, please contact convener of the Nursing Community Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, at <a href="mailto:smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu">Smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu</a> or 202-463-6930, ext. 247.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing American Academy of Nursing American Association of Colleges of Nursing American Association of Critical-Care Nurses

American Association of Heart Failure Nurses

American Association of Neuroscience Nurses

American Association of Nurse Anesthetists

American Association of Occupational Health Nurses

American Association of Nurse Practitioners

American College of Nurse-Midwives

**American Nurses Association** 

American Organization of Nurse Executives

American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association

American Psychiatric Nurses Association

American Society for Pain Management Nursing

American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses

Association of Community Health Nursing Educators

Association of Nurses in AIDS Care

Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses

**Dermatology Nurses' Association** 

Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association

**Infusion Nurses Society** 

International Association of Forensic Nurses

International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses

National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists

National Association of Hispanic Nurses

National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners

National Association of Neonatal Nurses

National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health

National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners

**National Association of School Nurses** 

National Council of State Boards of Nursing

**National Nursing Centers Consortium** 

National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties

**Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs** 

**Oncology Nursing Society** 

Organization for Associate Degree Nursing

Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society

Public Health Nursing Section, American Public Health Association

Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates

Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society



March 17, 2015

The Honorable Jon Tester
U.S. Senate
706 Hart Senate Office Building
2nd and C Streets, N.E.
Washington, DC 20510

## **Dear Senator Tester:**

On behalf of the 42 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community, we thank you for introducing the Protecting Access to Rural Therapy Services (PARTS) Act (S. 257). Collectively, the Nursing Community represents over one million Registered Nurses, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), nurse executives, nursing students, nursing faculty, and nurse researchers. Our organizations are committed to improving the health and health care of our nation by collaborating to support advancements in nursing education and practice. The Nursing Community supports this legislation, which would allow certain outpatient therapeutic and diagnostic services to be provided under general supervision, rather than direct supervision, of a physician or certain non-physician practitioner.

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March 17, 2015

The Honorable John Thune U.S. Senate 405 Hart Senate Office Building Constitution Ave. and 2nd St. NE Washington, DC 20510

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