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**NEWS RELEASE**



**October 22, 2007**

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**AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION AFFIRMS SENATE’S REFUSAL TO CUT  
VITAL NURSING WORKFORCE FUNDING PROGRAMS**

**Silver Spring, MD** — The American Nurses Association (ANA) applauds today’s Senate rejection of Amendment 3369 to the FY 2008 Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act which would have diminished much-needed funding for critical nursing workforce development programs by ten percent or \$13.4 million.

“America’s nurses and the nation know the nursing shortage is already impacting care. ANA will continue its long-standing call for an increase in funding for programs that support nursing students; invest in nursing faculty and education capacity; maintain advanced education programs; and direct nurses to critical shortage areas,” said ANA President Rebecca M. Patton, RN, MSN, CNOR.

The Health Resources and Services Administration projects that absent aggressive intervention, in the year 2020 the nursing shortage will grow to more than 1 million RNs – representing a shortage of 36 percent.

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Sponsored by Sen. Wayne Allard (R-CO), Amendment 3369 would impact all Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs except the Nurses Education Loan Repayment Programs. Title VIII programs – currently funded at \$150 Million – are the only federal programs designed to address the nursing shortage.

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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 54 constituent member nurses associations. 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.*