NURSING PLEDGE in SUPPORT of OUR MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, and THEIR FAMILIES THROUGH the “JOINING FORCES” of 3.1 MILLION NURSING PROFESSIONALS

Joining Forces is First Lady Michelle Obama’s comprehensive national initiative, to mobilize all sectors of the community to give our service members, veterans, and their families the support they deserve, particularly when it comes to employment, education, and wellness. (http://www.whitehouse.gov/joiningforces).

Our military service members, veterans, and their families have made a significant contribution to our nation’s safety and security. This contribution has been at great cost to each veteran and her or his family.

The profession of nursing has a long and established history of meeting and supporting the physical and mental health needs of our nation’s military service members, veterans, and their families.

So, the profession of nursing has pledged to inspire and prepare each nurse to recognize the unique health and wellness concerns of this population.

And with this pledge, the profession of nursing is committed to:

- Educating America’s future nurses to care for our nation’s veterans, service members, and their families facing post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, depression, and other clinical issues;
- Enriching nursing education to ensure that current and future nurses are educated and trained in the unique clinical challenges and best practices associated with caring for military service members, veterans, and their families;
- Disseminating the most up-to-date information as it relates to traumatic brain injury (TBI) and psychological health conditions, such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD);
- Growing the body of knowledge leading to improvements in health care and wellness for our military service members, veterans, and their families; and
- Leading and advancing the supportive community of nurses, institutions, and health care providers dedicated to improving the health of military service members, veterans, and their families.

By Joining Forces, the profession of nursing will inspire and prepare each nurse to recognize the unique health and wellness concerns of this population, and thereby improve the lives of those who have sacrificed in the service of our country.

Signed ___________________________________________________________________________
(Nursing Professional Organization or Academic Institution)

Date __________________________