



March XX, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
H-232, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
House Majority Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-107, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
House Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-204, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steve Scalise
House Republican Whip
United States House of Representatives
H-148, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader Hoyer, Republican Leader McCarthy, and Republican Whip Scalise:

On behalf of the XX undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) we urge you to support the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (H.R. 1195) and bring this vital piece of legislation to the House floor for a vote. This bipartisan effort overwhelmingly passed the House of Representatives in 2019 after going through the committee process and regular order. Given the importance of this issue and the need to address workplace violence, especially for our nation's nursing workforce, we strongly encourage you to bring H.R. 1195 up for a vote today.

The NCC is a cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the nursing profession representing Registered Nurses (RNs), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs),¹ nurse leaders, students, faculty, and researchers. Nurses and health care practitioners are among the professions with the highest rates of workplace violence, which is a growing concern for our providers and public health. In 2018, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics found that 73% of all nonfatal workplace incidents due to violence were among the health care workforce.² In fact, those working in health care and social services are five times more likely to suffer workplace violence than other professions.³ Currently, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) have longstanding voluntary guidance. However, that is not solving the problem. H.R. 1195, would work to address the startling realities of workplace violence by directing OSHA to put forth enforceable safety standards.

¹ APRNs include certified nurse-midwives (CNMs), certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs), clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) and nurse practitioners (NPs).

² U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (April 2020). Fact Sheet, Workplace Violence in Healthcare, 2018. Retrieved from: <https://www.bls.gov/iif/oshwc/cfoi/workplace-violence-healthcare-2018.htm>

³ Ibid

Addressing workplace violence, especially for our nation's nurses and APRNs who remain on the frontlines of health care delivery in this country, is imperative. Therefore, we urge you to bring the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (H.R. 1195) to the House floor for a vote. If the Nursing Community Coalition can be of any assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact the coalition's Executive Director, Rachel Stevenson, at rstevenson@thenursingcommunity.org or at 202-463-6930, ext. 271.

Sincerely,

CC:
Representative Joe Courtney

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