

Nursing Bills during the 110th Congress (2007-2008)

Members of Congress have introduced 15,086 bills, resolutions, and amendments and, as of February 20, 2008, 188 of those bills have become law. As a comparison, Members of Congress during the 109th Congress introduced 19,534 bills, resolutions, and amendments and 469 became law. Of those bills, only 125 pertained to nursing. With the exception of the appropriations bill, none of the nursing bills passed into law.

Below are the 100 bills that address the nursing shortage and nursing education. The bills have been organized into 15 categories: appropriations; nursing scholarships/loan forgiveness; nurse education and training; nursing research; Medicare/Medicaid reimbursements; medical fraud/patient safety; best practices/recruitment; nurse benefits; military/VA nurses; rural health; bioterrorism; universal health care; staffing ratios/mandatory overtime; nurse aides; and foreign nurses.

Appropriations

[H.J.RES.72](#) : Making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep Obey, David R.](#) [WI-7] (introduced 12/18/2007) **Cosponsors**
(None)

Committees: House Appropriations

Latest Major Action: Became Public Law No: 110-149

[H.R.2764](#) : Making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep Lowey, Nita M.](#) [NY-18] (introduced 6/18/2007) **Cosponsors**
(None)

Committees: House Appropriations; Senate Appropriations

House Reports: [110-197](#); **Senate Reports:** [110-128](#)

Latest Major Action: Became Public Law No: 110-161

Note: On 12/17/2007, the substitute House amendments to the Senate amendment changed this bill to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008. The bill was further amended with a subsequent Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment. A House Appropriations committee print presents the final corrected version, including the joint explanatory statements. The Act contains: Division A: Agriculture; Division B: Commerce-Justice-Science; Division C: Energy-Water; Division D: Financial Services; Division E: Homeland Security; Division F: Interior; Division G: Labor-HHS-Education; Division H: Legislative Branch; Division I: Military-Veterans; Division J: State-Foreign Operations; Division K: Transportation-HUD; Division L: Supplemental Appropriations.

[H.R.3043](#) : Making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep Obey, David R.](#) [WI-7] (introduced 7/13/2007) **Cosponsors**
(None)

Committees: House Appropriations

House Reports: [110-231](#)

[H.R.3222](#) : Making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes. The bill includes the Senate Amendment appropriating \$3 million for the proposed Troops to Nurse Teachers program.

Sponsor: [Rep Murtha, John P.](#) [PA-12] (introduced 7/30/2007) **Cosponsors**
(None)

Committees: House Appropriations; Senate Appropriations

House Reports: [110-279](#); **Senate Reports:** [110-155](#)

[S.1710](#) : An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Sen Harkin, Tom](#) [IA] (introduced 6/27/2007) **Cosponsors** (None)

Committees: Senate Appropriations

Senate Reports: [110-107](#)

[S.AMDT.3129](#) to [H.R.3222](#) To make available from Military Personnel \$3,000,000 for a pilot program on troops to nurse teachers.

Sponsor: [Sen Durbin, Richard](#) [IL] (introduced 10/2/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (1)

Nursing Scholarships/Loan Forgiveness

[H.R.772](#) : To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize capitation grants to increase the number of nursing faculty and students, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep Lowey, Nita M.](#) [NY-18] (introduced 1/31/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (11)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce

[H.R.2572](#) : To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a student loan forgiveness program for nurses. The bill provides for up to \$17,000 in loan forgiveness for Federal Stafford Loans for up to five years working as a full-time registered nurse in a health care facility or as a nursing instructor at a school of nursing.

Sponsor: [Rep Sanchez, Loretta](#) [CA-47] (introduced 6/5/2007) **Cosponsors** (13)

Committees: House Education and Labor

[H.R.2621](#) : To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to expand the loan forgiveness program for teachers, to provide a loan forgiveness program for nurses,

and for other purposes. The bill would authorize a maximum loan repayment of \$17,500 over five years for nurses that agree to work full-time in a clinical setting or as a faculty member at an accredited school of nursing.

Sponsor: [Rep McCarthy, Carolyn](#) [NY-4] (introduced 6/7/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (2)

Committees: House Education and Labor

[H.R.2669](#) : To provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008. The bill designates nursing along with other professions as areas of national need for loan forgiveness. The bill also creates a grant program for Minority serving colleges and universities to increase the number of students in nursing and other professions.

Sponsor: [Rep Miller, George](#) [CA-7] (introduced 6/12/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (31)

Committees: House Education and Labor

House Reports: [110-210](#)

[H.R.2794](#) : To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants to increase the number of qualified nursing faculty, and for other purposes. The grants are awarded to states to supplement the funding for nurse faculty pay, benefits, and training. The states also must match the amount of the grant. The only states that qualify are those that have a population increase of 50% between 1990 and 2025 and have a nurse ratio of less than 555 per 100,000 residents in the state by 2020.

Sponsor: [Rep Pastor, Ed](#) [AZ-4] (introduced 6/20/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (1)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce

[H.R.3597](#) : To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to create a capitation grant program to increase the number of nurses and graduate educated nurse faculty to meet the future need for qualified nurses, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep McCarthy, Carolyn](#) [NY-4] (introduced 9/19/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (2)

Committees: House Education and Labor

[H.R.3746](#) : To amend and extend the Higher Education Act of 1965. The bill permits foreign nursing schools who meet criteria to educate Doctors, nurses and veterinarians. There is also a loan forgiveness program for nurses in the bill.

Sponsor: [Rep McKeon, Howard P. "Buck"](#) [CA-25] (introduced 10/4/2007)

[Cosponsors](#) (8)

Committees: House Education and Labor

[H.R.4001](#) : To amend title VIII of the Public Health Service Act to expand the nurse student loan program, to establish grant programs to address the nursing shortage, to amend title VII of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for a nurse faculty pilot project, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep Boustany, Charles W., Jr.](#) [LA-7] (introduced 10/30/2007)

[Cosponsors](#) (15)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Education and Labor

[H.R.4082](#) : To improve the quality of, and access to, long-term care. The bill would allow nurses to repay their loans by working at for profit health care institutes. The bill would also require the Health Resources and Services Administration to collect data on the supply and demand of nurses and the type of federal aid nurses receive.

Sponsor: [Rep Pomeroy, Earl](#) [ND] (introduced 11/6/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (3)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Ways and Means

[H.R.4137](#) : To amend and extend the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes. The bill includes several new programs for nursing students including capitation grants, loan forgiveness for nurses who work in underserved areas, and a nurse faculty pilot program, among other provisions.

Sponsor: [Rep Miller, George](#) [CA-7] (introduced 11/9/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (29)

Committees: House Education and Labor; House Judiciary; House Science and Technology; House Financial Services

[H.R.4321](#) : To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize medical simulation enhancement programs, and for other purposes. The bill creates a grant programs for schools of nursing, medicine and allied health to purchase medical simulation technology.

Sponsor: [Rep Forbes, J. Randy](#) [VA-4] (introduced 12/6/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (8)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce

[S.100](#) : A bill to encourage the health of children in schools by promoting better nutrition and increased physical activity, and for other purposes. The bill provides loan forgiveness for school nurses with at least a bachelors degree who serve in an elementary or secondary public school for three years.

Sponsor: [Sen Boxer, Barbara](#) [CA] (introduced 1/4/2007) **Cosponsors** (None)

Committees: Senate Finance

[S.446](#) : A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize capitation grants to increase the number of nursing faculty and students, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Sen Durbin, Richard](#) [IL] (introduced 1/31/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (5)

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

[S.481](#) : A bill to recruit and retain more qualified individuals to teach in Tribal Colleges or Universities. The bill creates loan forgiveness for nursing instructors at tribal colleges.

Sponsor: [Sen Conrad, Kent](#) [ND] (introduced 2/1/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (8)

Committees: Senate Indian Affairs

[S.1056](#) : A bill to provide for a comprehensive Federal effort relating to early detection of, treatments for, and the prevention of cancer, and for other purposes. The bill directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the director of the National Cancer Institute and the Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research to conduct a study to examine ways to increase the number of cancer researchers. It will provide

loan forgiveness for cancer researchers at the National Institutes of Health.

Sponsor: [Sen Feinstein, Dianne](#) [CA] (introduced 3/29/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (1)

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

[S.1200](#) : A bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to revise and extend the Act. The bill authorizes grants and scholarships for Native Americans to become nurses and creates a nurse residency programs within the Indian Health Service.

Sponsor: [Sen Dorgan, Byron L.](#) [ND] (introduced 4/24/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (31)

Committees: Senate Indian Affairs

[S.1604](#) : A bill to increase the number of well-educated nurses, and for other purposes. The bill provides grants to make nursing education more accessible in rural areas through web-based education, provides grants to increase the number of nurse faculty through scholarships, establish a Nurse Medical Academy of Science and Health to recruit middle and high school students in rural areas to further their education to become nurses, and increase patient safety through grants to increase the number of nurses with graduate degrees, especially Clinical Nurse Leaders.

Sponsor: [Sen Clinton, Hillary Rodham](#) [NY] (introduced 6/13/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (2)

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

[S.1628](#) : A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize programs to increase the number of nurse faculty and to increase the domestic nursing and physical therapy workforce, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Sen Bingaman, Jeff](#) [NM] (introduced 6/14/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (6)

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

[S.1642](#) : A bill to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes. The bill includes capitation grant language for nursing schools funded through the Higher Education Act.

Sponsor: [Sen Kennedy, Edward M.](#) [MA] (introduced 6/18/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (10)

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

[S.1980](#) : A bill to improve the quality of, and access to, long-term care. The bill would allow nurses to repay their loans by working at for profit health care institutes. The bill would also require the Health Resources and Services Administration to collect data on the supply and demand of nurses and the type of federal aid nurses receive.

Sponsor: [Sen Smith, Gordon H.](#) [OR] (introduced 8/2/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (3)

Committees: Senate Finance

[S.2064](#) : A bill to fund comprehensive programs to ensure an adequate supply of nurses. The bill creates career ladder programs between labor unions and other entities to assist nursing personnel from Certified Nurse Assistants to Registered

Nurses to increase their education.

Sponsor: [Sen Durbin, Richard](#) [IL] (introduced 9/18/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (5)

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

[S.2230](#) : A bill to amend title VIII of the Public Health Service Act to expand the nurse student loan program, to establish grant programs to address the nursing shortage, to amend title VII of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for a nurse faculty pilot project, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Sen Biden, Joseph R., Jr.](#) [DE] (introduced 10/25/2007) **Cosponsors** (None)

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

[S.AMDT.2448](#) to [H.R.2638](#) To increase the domestic supply of nurses and physical therapists, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Sen Schumer, Charles E.](#) [NY] (introduced 7/25/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (1)

Latest Major Action: 7/26/2007 Proposed amendment SA 2448 withdrawn in Senate.

[S.AMDT.3449](#) to [H.R.3043](#) To increase the number of nursing faculty and students in the United States, to encourage global health care cooperation, and for other purposes. The amendment creates a capitation grants program and funds the grants through the fees hospitals and other health care facilities pay to secure visas for foreign nurses.

Sponsor: [Sen Durbin, Richard](#) [IL] (introduced 10/23/2007) **Cosponsors** (None)

Latest Major Action: 10/23/2007 Senate amendment agreed to. Status: Amendment SA 3449 agreed to in Senate by Unanimous Consent.

Nurse Education and Training

[H.R.677](#) : To provide for a study by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences to identify constraints encountered by schools of nursing in admitting and graduating the number of nurses sufficient to meet the health care needs of the United States, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep Holt, Rush D.](#) [NJ-12] (introduced 1/24/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (76)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce

[H.R.727](#) : To amend the Public Health Service Act to add requirements regarding trauma care, and for other purposes. The bill would create grants to develop curriculum in trauma care for nursing and medical students.

Sponsor: [Rep Green, Gene](#) [TX-29] (introduced 1/30/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (17)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce

Latest Major Action: Became Public Law No: 110-23

[H.R.1078](#) : To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of comprehensive cancer care planning under the Medicare Program and to improve

the care furnished to individuals diagnosed with cancer by establishing a Medicare hospice care demonstration program and grants programs for cancer palliative care and symptom management programs, provider education, and related research. Schools of nursing are eligible under the demonstration project and the education grants. The National Institute of Nursing Research is designated as one of the institutes that should conduct oncology/palliative care.

Sponsor: [Rep Capps, Lois](#) [CA-23] (introduced 2/15/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (94)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Ways and Means

[H.R.1585](#) : To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes. The bill increases bonuses for military nurses and other officers and creates a nurse practitioner program in at least family practice and psychiatry or mental health at the Uniform Services University of Health Sciences.

Sponsor: [Rep Skelton, Ike](#) [MO-4] (by request) (introduced 3/20/2007)

[Cosponsors](#) (1)

Committees: House Armed Services

House Reports: [110-146](#), [110-146](#) Part 2

[H.R.1634](#) : To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish grant programs to provide for education and outreach on newborn screening and coordinated follow-up care once newborn screening has been conducted, to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act, and for other purposes. The bill also creates grants for schools of nursing and other health professions schools to educate health professionals about newborn screening.

Sponsor: [Rep Roybal-Allard, Lucille](#) [CA-34] (introduced 3/21/2007) [Cosponsors](#)

(21)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce

[H.R.2063](#) : To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, to develop a voluntary policy for managing the risk of food allergy and anaphylaxis in schools, to establish school-based food allergy management grants, and for other purposes. The bill directs training for school personnel to administer medication when a school nurse is not available. The bill also provides for grants to train those personnel.

Sponsor: [Rep Lowey, Nita M.](#) [NY-18] (introduced 4/26/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (74)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Education and Labor

[H.R.2199](#) : To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide certain improvements in the treatment of individuals with traumatic brain injuries, and for other purposes. The bill requires that nursing and other health care professional students learn about traumatic brain injuries during their clinicals.

Sponsor: [Rep Michaud, Michael H.](#) [ME-2] (introduced 5/8/2007) [Cosponsors](#)

(36)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

[H.R.2384](#) : To create a pilot program to increase the number of graduate educated nurse faculty to meet the future need for qualified nurses, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep McCarthy, Carolyn](#) [NY-4] (introduced 5/17/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (13)

Committees: House Education and Labor

[H.R.3825](#) : To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish grant programs to provide for education and outreach on newborn screening and coordinated followup care once newborn screening has been conducted, to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act, and for other purposes. The bill creates a grant programs that helps educate nursing and medical students on newborn screening.

Sponsor: [Rep Roybal-Allard, Lucille](#) [CA-34] (introduced 10/15/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (73)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce

[S.634](#) : A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish grant programs to provide for education and outreach on newborn screening and coordinated followup care once newborn screening has been conducted, to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act, and for other purposes. The bill also creates grants for schools of nursing and other health professions schools to educate health professionals about newborn screening.

Sponsor: [Sen Dodd, Christopher J.](#) [CT] (introduced 2/15/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (16)

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

[S.646](#) : A bill to increase the nursing workforce. The bill provides grants to develop distance education nursing programs, especially in rural areas and requests research be done through the Department of Health and Human Services and the Institute of Medicine to determine best nurse education practices.

Sponsor: [Sen Coleman, Norm](#) [MN] (introduced 2/15/2007) **Cosponsors** (None)

Committees: Senate Judiciary

[S.657](#) : A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to add requirements regarding trauma care, and for other purposes. The bill would create grants to develop curriculum in trauma care for nursing and medical students.

Sponsor: [Sen Reed, Jack](#) [RI] (introduced 2/16/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (11)

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Latest Major Action: Became Public Law No: 110-23

[S.1232](#) : A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, to develop a voluntary policy for managing the risk of food allergy and anaphylaxis in schools, to establish school-based food allergy management grants, and for other purposes. The bill directs training for school

personnel to administer medication when a school nurse is not available. The bill also provides for grants to train those personnel.

Sponsor: [Sen Dodd, Christopher J.](#) [CT] (introduced 4/26/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (9)

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Nursing Research

[H.R.1078](#) : To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of comprehensive cancer care planning under the Medicare Program and to improve the care furnished to individuals diagnosed with cancer by establishing a Medicare hospice care demonstration program and grants programs for cancer palliative care and symptom management programs, provider education, and related research. Schools of nursing are eligible under the demonstration project and the education grants. The National Institute of Nursing Research is designated as one of the institutes that should conduct oncology/palliative care.

Sponsor: [Rep Capps, Lois](#) [CA-23] (introduced 2/15/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (94)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Ways and Means

[S.111](#) : A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to recognize the United States Military Cancer Institute as an establishment within the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, to require the Institute to promote the health of members of the Armed Forces and their dependents by enhancing cancer research and treatment, to provide for a study of the epidemiological causes of cancer among various ethnic groups for cancer prevention and early detection efforts, and for other purposes. The bill includes research in oncologic nursing.

Sponsor: [Sen Inouye, Daniel K.](#) [HI] (introduced 1/4/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (None)

Committees: Senate Armed Services

[S.866](#) : A bill to provide for increased planning and funding for health promotion programs of the Department of Health and Human Services. The bill would provide grants to schools of nursing and other eligible entities to fund Prevention Research Centers to promote healthy living.

Sponsor: [Sen Lugar, Richard G.](#) [IN] (introduced 3/13/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (4)

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

[S.1056](#) : A bill to provide for a comprehensive Federal effort relating to early detection of, treatments for, and the prevention of cancer, and for other purposes. The bill directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the director of the National Cancer Institute and the Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research to conduct a study to examine ways to increase the number of cancer researchers. It will provide loan forgiveness for cancer researchers at the National Institutes of Health.

Sponsor: [Sen Feinstein, Dianne](#) [CA] (introduced 3/29/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (1)

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Medicare/Medicaid Reimbursements

[H.R.820](#) : To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services under part B of the Medicare Program, and for other purposes. The bill includes psychiatric nurses to provide services covered under Medicare.

Sponsor: [Rep Towns, Edolphus](#) [NY-10] (introduced 2/5/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (9)
Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Ways and Means

[H.R.864](#) : To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for reimbursement of certified midwife services and to provide for more equitable reimbursement rates for certified nurse-midwife services.

Sponsor: [Rep Towns, Edolphus](#) [NY-10] (introduced 2/6/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (39)
Committees: House Ways and Means; House Energy and Commerce

[H.R.1078](#) : To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of comprehensive cancer care planning under the Medicare Program and to improve the care furnished to individuals diagnosed with cancer by establishing a Medicare hospice care demonstration program and grants programs for cancer palliative care and symptom management programs, provider education, and related research. Schools of nursing are eligible under the demonstration project and the education grants. The National Institute of Nursing Research is designated as one of the institutes that should conduct oncology/palliative care.

Sponsor: [Rep Capps, Lois](#) [CA-23] (introduced 2/15/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (94)
Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Ways and Means

[H.R.1245](#) : To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage for kidney disease education services under the Medicare Program, and for other purposes. The bill provides for Medicare reimbursement to registered nurses who provide renal disease education.

Sponsor: [Rep Kirk, Mark Steven](#) [IL-10] (introduced 2/28/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (22)
Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Ways and Means

[H.R.1866](#) : To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide payment under part A of the Medicare Program on a reasonable cost basis for anesthesia services furnished by an anesthesiologist in certain rural hospitals in the same manner as payments are provided for anesthesia services furnished by anesthesiologist assistants and certified registered nurse anesthetists in such hospitals.

Sponsor: [Rep Cuellar, Henry](#) [TX-28] (introduced 4/17/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (48)
Committees: House Ways and Means

[H.R.1932](#) : To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for improved payments under the Medicare Program for academic anesthesiology programs for resident physicians and for academic programs for student registered nurse anesthetists.

Sponsor: [Rep Stupak, Bart](#) [MI-1] (introduced 4/18/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (36)
Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Ways and Means

[H.R.2066](#) : To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to improve access to advanced practice nurses and physician assistants under the Medicaid Program.

Sponsor: [Rep Olver, John W.](#) [MA-1] (introduced 4/26/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (49)
Committees: House Energy and Commerce

[H.R.3024](#) : To amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to provide States with the option to provide nurse home visitation services under Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

Sponsor: [Rep DeGette, Diana](#) [CO-1] (introduced 7/12/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (10)
Committees: House Energy and Commerce

[H.R.3066](#) : To permit pass-through payment for reasonable costs of certified registered nurse anesthetist services in critical access hospitals notwithstanding the reclassification of such hospitals as urban hospitals, including hospitals located in "Lugar counties", and for on-call and standby costs for such services.

Sponsor: [Rep Hare, Phil](#) [IL-17] (introduced 7/17/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (1)
Committees: House Ways and Means

[H.R.3162](#) : To amend titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act to extend and improve the children's health insurance program, to improve beneficiary protections under the Medicare, Medicaid, and the CHIP program, and for other purposes. The bill increases reimbursements for certified nurse midwives.

Sponsor: [Rep Dingell, John D.](#) [MI-15] (introduced 7/24/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (12)
Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Ways and Means
House Reports: [110-284](#) Part 1

[H.R.3784](#) : To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the quality of care in skilled nursing facilities under the Medicare Program through requiring the reporting of expenditures for nursing.

Sponsor: [Rep Kaptur, Marcy](#) [OH-9] (introduced 10/9/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (3)
Committees: House Ways and Means; House Energy and Commerce

[H.R.4651](#) : To amend the Federal Employees' Compensation Act to cover services provided to injured Federal workers by physician assistants and nurse practitioners, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep Hare, Phil](#) [IL-17] (introduced 12/13/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (6)
Committees: House Education and Labor

[H.R.5174](#) : To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to continue the ability of hospitals to supply a needed workforce of nurses and allied health professionals by preserving funding for hospital operated nursing and allied health education programs.

Sponsor: [Rep English, Phil](#) [PA-3] (introduced 1/29/2008) [Cosponsors](#) (3)
Committees: House Ways and Means

[S.54](#) : A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of services provided by nursing school clinics under State medicaid programs.

Sponsor: [Sen Inouye, Daniel K.](#) [HI] (introduced 1/4/2007) **Cosponsors** (None)
Committees: Senate Finance

[S.59](#) : A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to improve access to advanced practice nurses and physician assistants under the Medicaid Program.

Sponsor: [Sen Inouye, Daniel K.](#) [HI] (introduced 1/4/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (2)
Committees: Senate Finance

[S.432](#) : A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage for kidney disease education services under the Medicare program, and for other purposes. The bill provides for Medicare reimbursement to registered nurses who provide renal disease education.

Sponsor: [Sen Lincoln, Blanche L.](#) [AR] (introduced 1/30/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (9)
Committees: Senate Finance

[S.507](#) : A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for reimbursement of certified midwife services and to provide for more equitable reimbursement rates for certified nurse-midwife services.

Sponsor: [Sen Conrad, Kent](#) [ND] (introduced 2/6/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (20)
Committees: Senate Finance

[S.1003](#) : A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to emergency medical services and the quality and efficiency of care furnished in emergency departments of hospitals and critical access hospitals by establishing a bipartisan commission to examine factors that affect the effective delivery of such services, by providing for additional payments for certain physician services furnished in such emergency departments, and by establishing a Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Working Group, and for other purposes. Nurses are designated as being eligible for membership on the CMS Working Group.

Sponsor: [Sen Stabenow, Debbie](#) [MI] (introduced 3/28/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (13)
Committees: Senate Finance

[S.1052](#) : A bill to amend title XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to provide States with the option to provide nurse home visitation services under Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

Sponsor: [Sen Salazar, Ken](#) [CO] (introduced 3/29/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (3)
Committees: Senate Finance

[S.1678](#) : A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare

program.

Sponsor: [Sen Collins, Susan M.](#) [ME] (introduced 6/21/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (6)

Committees: Senate Finance

[S.1795](#) : A bill to improve access to workers' compensation programs for injured Federal employees. The bill includes services provided by Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants as eligible for reimbursement for Workers Compensation.

Sponsor: [Sen Kennedy, Edward M.](#) [MA] (introduced 7/17/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (4)

Committees: Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

[S.2112](#) : A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish the Nurse-Managed Health Clinic Investment program, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Sen Inouye, Daniel K.](#) [HI] (introduced 9/27/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (3)

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Medical Fraud/Patient Safety

[H.RES.456](#) : Supporting the goals and ideals of an annual National Time Out Day to promote patient safety and optimal outcomes in the operating room.

Sponsor: [Rep Kaptur, Marcy](#) [OH-9] (introduced 6/5/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (1)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce

[H.R.378](#) : To direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard to reduce injuries to patients, direct-care registered nurses, and other health care providers by establishing a safe patient handling standard.

Sponsor: [Rep Conyers, John, Jr.](#) [MI-14] (introduced 1/10/2007) **Cosponsors** (None)

Committees: House Education and Labor; House Energy and Commerce

[H.R.583](#) : To amend the Public Health Service Act to make the provision of technical services for medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy treatments safer, more accurate, and less costly. The bill exempts physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants from the provisions of this bill.

Sponsor: [Rep Doyle, Michael F.](#) [PA-14] (introduced 1/19/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (128)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce

[H.R.1783](#) : To amend the Social Security Act to enhance the social security of the Nation by ensuring adequate public-private infrastructure and to resolve to prevent, detect, treat, intervene in, and prosecute elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and for other purposes. The bill also provides for continuing education for Certified Nurse Assistants.

Sponsor: [Rep Emanuel, Rahm](#) [IL-5] (introduced 3/29/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (95)

Committees: House Ways and Means; House Judiciary; House Energy and Commerce; House Education and Labor

[H.R.3023](#) : To require the manufacturers, packers, and distributors of prescription drugs and medical devices to disclose certain gifts provided in connection with detailing, promotional, or other marketing activities, and for other purposes. Nurse Practitioners would be included in the list of health professionals whom pharmaceutical and medical devices companies would have to report as receiving gifts from them.

Sponsor: [Rep DeFazio, Peter A.](#) [OR-4] (introduced 7/12/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (4)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce

[S.1042](#) : A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to make the provision of technical services for medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy treatments safer, more accurate, and less costly. The bill exempts physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants from the provisions of this bill.

Sponsor: [Sen Enzi, Michael B.](#) [WY] (introduced 3/29/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (21)

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

[S.1070](#) : A bill to amend the Social Security Act to enhance the social security of the Nation by ensuring adequate public-private infrastructure and to resolve to prevent, detect, treat, intervene in, and prosecute elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and for other purposes. The bill also provides for continuing education for Certified Nurse Assistants.

Sponsor: [Sen Hatch, Orrin G.](#) [UT] (introduced 3/29/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (22)

Committees: Senate Finance

Best Practices/Recruitment

[H.R.2524](#) : To provide the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Education with increased authority with respect to asthma programs, and to provide for increased funding for such programs. The bill provides incentives for school districts to hire more school nurses and train them on asthma care.

Sponsor: [Rep Lowey, Nita M.](#) [NY-18] (introduced 5/24/2007) **Cosponsors** (None)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Education and Labor

[S.RES.192](#) : A resolution recognizing National Nurses Week on May 6 through May 12, 2007.

Sponsor: [Sen Durbin, Richard](#) [IL] (introduced 5/10/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (2)

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

5/14/2007 Passed/agreed to in Senate. Status: Resolution agreed to in Senate without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimous Consent.

Nurse Benefits

Military/VA Nurses

[H.CON.RES.90](#) : Recognizing the dedication and honorable service of members of the Armed Forces who are serving or have served as military nurses.

Sponsor: [Rep Johnson, Eddie Bernice](#) [TX-30] (introduced 3/12/2007)

[Cosponsors](#) (10)

Committees: House Armed Services

[H.RES.262](#) : Honoring Ellen May Tower who, while an United States Army nurse during the Spanish-American War, became the first Army nurse to die on foreign soil.

Sponsor: [Rep Rogers, Mike J.](#) [MI-8] (introduced 3/22/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (3)

Committees: House Armed Services

[H.R.1448](#) : To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a Hospital Quality Report Card Initiative to report on health care quality in Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals. The bill would require all VA hospitals to report their nursing and other health professions staffing levels.

Sponsor: [Rep Lowey, Nita M.](#) [NY-18] (introduced 3/9/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (22)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

[H.R.1538](#) : To amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the management of medical care, personnel actions, and quality of life issues for members of the Armed Forces who are receiving medical care in an outpatient status, and for other purposes. The bill proscribes for rehabilitation nurses to provide care for military personnel with brain injuries.

Sponsor: [Rep Skelton, Ike](#) [MO-4] (introduced 3/15/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (28)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs; Senate Armed Services

House Reports: [110-68](#) Part 1

[H.R.1585](#) : To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes. The bill increases bonuses for military nurses and other officers and creates a nurse practitioner program in at least family practice and psychiatry or mental health at the Uniform Services University of Health Sciences.

Sponsor: [Rep Skelton, Ike](#) [MO-4] (by request) (introduced 3/20/2007)

[Cosponsors](#) (1)

Committees: House Armed Services

House Reports: [110-146](#), [110-146](#) Part 2

[H.R.3423](#) : To provide that service of the members of the organization known as the United States Cadet Nurse Corps during World War II constituted active military service for purposes of laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Sponsor: [Rep Lowey, Nita M.](#) [NY-18] (introduced 8/3/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (11)
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs; House Armed Services

[H.R.3793](#) : To amend title 37, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to continue to pay to a member of the Armed Forces who is retired or separated from the Armed Forces due to a combat-related injury certain bonuses, including nurse ascension bonuses, that the member was entitled to before the retirement or separation and would continue to be entitled to if the member was not retired or separated.

Sponsor: [Rep Altmire, Jason](#) [PA-4] (introduced 10/10/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (277)
Committees: House Armed Services

[H.R.3990](#) : To reduce sexual assault and domestic violence involving members of the Armed Forces and their family members and partners through enhanced programs of prevention and deterrence, enhanced programs of victims services, and strengthened provisions for prosecution of assailants, and for other purposes. The bill provides for the hiring of more sexual assault nurse examiners at military medical facilities..

Sponsor: [Rep Slaughter, Louise McIntosh](#) [NY-28] (introduced 10/29/2007)
[Cosponsors](#) (49)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Judiciary; House Veterans' Affairs

[H.R.4986](#) : To provide for the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, as previously enrolled, with certain modifications to address the foreign sovereign immunities provisions of title 28, United States Code, with respect to the attachment of property in certain judgements against Iraq, the lapse of statutory authorities for the payment of bonuses, special pays, and similar benefits for members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes. The bill authorizes the creation of an undergraduate school of nursing at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. The bill also includes ascension bonuses for military nurses.

Sponsor: [Rep Skelton, Ike](#) [MO-4] (introduced 1/16/2008) [Cosponsors](#) (1)
Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: Became Public Law No: 110-181

[S.610](#) : A bill to clarify the effective date of the modification of treatment for retirement annuity purposes of part-time service before April 7, 1986, of certain Department of Veterans Affairs health-care professionals. The bill applies to registered nurses and other health professionals.

Sponsor: [Sen Rockefeller, John D., IV](#) [WV] (introduced 2/15/2007)
Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

[S.692](#) : A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a Hospital Quality Report Card Initiative to report on health care quality in Veterans Affairs hospitals.

The bill would require all VA hospitals to report their nursing and other health professions staffing levels.

Sponsor: [Sen Obama, Barack](#) [IL] (introduced 2/27/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (1)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

[S.AMDT.2268](#) to [H.R.1585](#) To provide for an increase in the number of nurses and faculty.

Sponsor: [Sen Durbin, Richard](#) [IL] (introduced 7/16/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (10)

Rural Health

Bioterrorism

Universal Health Care

[H.R.15](#) : To provide a program of national health insurance, and for other purposes. The bill does provide for a funding mechanism to pay for nursing and other health professions education.

Sponsor: [Rep Dingell, John D.](#) [MI-15] (introduced 1/4/2007) **Cosponsors** (None)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Ways and Means

[H.R.676](#) : To provide for comprehensive health insurance coverage for all United States residents, and for other purposes. The bill assures that health care practitioners like nurse practitioners and nurse midwives receive reimbursement for services provided under this program.

Sponsor: [Rep Conyers, John, Jr.](#) [MI-14] (introduced 1/24/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (88)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Ways and Means; House Natural Resources

[H.R.1074](#) : To provide for programs that reduce the number of unplanned pregnancies, reduce the need for abortion, help women bear healthy children, and support new parents. The bill would create a program to offer free of charge, in-house education from a registered nurse to any new mother under the age of 21 to learn basic child care.

Sponsor: [Rep Ryan, Tim](#) [OH-17] (introduced 2/15/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (37)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Education and Labor; House Ways and Means

[H.R.1200](#) : To provide for health care for every American and to control the cost and enhance the quality of the health care system. The bill does provide for a funding mechanism to pay for nursing and other health professions education.

Sponsor: [Rep McDermott, Jim](#) [WA-7] (introduced 2/27/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (17)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Ways and Means; House Oversight and Government Reform; House Armed Services

Staffing Ratios/Mandatory Overtime

[H.R.1448](#) : To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a Hospital Quality Report Card Initiative to report on health care quality in Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals. The bill would require all VA hospitals to report their nursing and other health professions staffing levels.

Sponsor: [Rep Lowey, Nita M.](#) [NY-18] (introduced 3/9/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (22)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

[H.R.2122](#) : To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for patient protection by limiting the number of mandatory overtime hours a nurse may be required to work in certain providers of services to which payments are made under the Medicare Program.

Sponsor: [Rep Stark, Fortney Pete](#) [CA-13] (introduced 5/3/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (81)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Ways and Means

[H.R.2123](#) : To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish direct care registered nurse-to-patient staffing ratio requirements in hospitals, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep Schakowsky, Janice D.](#) [IL-9] (introduced 5/3/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (43)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Ways and Means

[H.R.4138](#) : To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to impose minimum nurse staffing ratios in Medicare participating hospitals, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep Capps, Lois](#) [CA-23] (introduced 11/9/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (20)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Ways and Means

[S.73](#) : A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for patient protection by establishing minimum nurse staffing ratios at certain Medicare providers, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Sen Inouye, Daniel K.](#) [HI] (introduced 1/4/2007) **Cosponsors** (None)

Committees: Senate Finance

[S.692](#) : A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a Hospital Quality Report Card Initiative to report on health care quality in Veterans Affairs hospitals. The bill would require all VA hospitals to report their nursing and other health professions staffing levels.

Sponsor: [Sen Obama, Barack](#) [IL] (introduced 2/27/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (1)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

[S.1842](#) : A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for patient protection by limiting the number of mandatory overtime hours a nurse may be required to work in certain providers of services to which payments are made under the Medicare Program.

Sponsor: [Sen Kennedy, Edward M.](#) [MA] (introduced 7/20/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (17)

Committees: Senate Finance

Nurse Aides

[H.R.1476](#) : To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to expand the nursing home patients' bill of rights to include the right to receive care from a credible caregiver by requiring background checks on direct access employees and the right to a safe environment during an emergency or natural disaster by requiring nursing long-term care facilities to establish disaster emergency and evacuation plans. Nurse aides and nursing assistants are required to pass a background check for abusive behavior.

Sponsor: [Rep Brown-Waite, Ginny](#) [FL-5] (introduced 3/12/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (17)

Committees: House Ways and Means; House Energy and Commerce

[H.R.1783](#) : To amend the Social Security Act to enhance the social security of the Nation by ensuring adequate public-private infrastructure and to resolve to prevent, detect, treat, intervene in, and prosecute elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and for other purposes. The bill also provides for continuing education for Certified Nurse Assistants.

Sponsor: [Rep Emanuel, Rahm](#) [IL-5] (introduced 3/29/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (95)

Committees: House Ways and Means; House Judiciary; House Energy and Commerce; House Education and Labor

[H.R.3078](#) : To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to require screening, including national criminal history background checks, of direct patient access employees of skilled nursing facilities, nursing facilities, and other long-term care facilities and providers, and to provide for nationwide expansion of the pilot program for national and State background checks on direct patient access employees of long-term care facilities or providers.

Sponsor: [Rep Mahoney, Tim](#) [FL-16] (introduced 7/18/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (5)

Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Ways and Means; House Judiciary

[S.1070](#) : A bill to amend the Social Security Act to enhance the social security of the Nation by ensuring adequate public-private infrastructure and to resolve to prevent, detect, treat, intervene in, and prosecute elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and for other purposes. The bill also provides for continuing education for Certified Nurse Assistants.

Sponsor: [Sen Hatch, Orrin G.](#) [UT] (introduced 3/29/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (22)
Committees: Senate Finance

Foreign Nurses

[H.R.508](#) : To require United States military disengagement from Iraq, to provide United States assistance for reconstruction and reconciliation in Iraq, and for other purposes. The bill creates an international fund to assist Iraqi professionals like doctors and nurses return to Iraq to provide patient care.

Sponsor: [Rep Woolsey, Lynn C.](#) [CA-6] (introduced 1/17/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (52)
Committees: House Foreign Affairs; House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs; House Rules; House Judiciary

[H.R.1358](#) : To create a new nonimmigrant visa category for registered nurses, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep Shadegg, John B.](#) [AZ-3] (introduced 3/6/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (3)
Committees: House Judiciary

[H.R.1645](#) : To provide for comprehensive immigration reform, and for other purposes. The bill allows for more registered nurses and physical therapists to obtain visas to enter and work in the United States.

Sponsor: [Rep Gutierrez, Luis V.](#) [IL-4] (introduced 3/22/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (74)
Committees: House Judiciary; House Homeland Security

[H.R.2446](#) : To reauthorize the Afghanistan Freedom Support Act of 2002, and for other purposes. The bill provides for funding to train medical personnel such as doctors, nurses, physician assistants, and midwives in Afghanistan.

Sponsor: [Rep Lantos, Tom](#) [CA-12] (introduced 5/22/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (2)
Committees: House Foreign Affairs; Senate Foreign Relations
House Reports: [110-170](#)

[S.AMDT.2339](#) to [H.R.2669](#) To provide interim relief for shortages in employment-based visas for aliens with extraordinary ability and advanced degrees and for nurses.

Sponsor: [Sen Cornyn, John](#) [TX] (introduced 7/19/2007) [Cosponsors](#) (6)
Latest Major Action: 7/19/2007 Amendment SA 2339 ruled out of order by the chair.