



Charles N. Kahn III
President and CEO

July 16, 2019

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Chairman
House Committee on Energy & Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Greg Walden, Ranking Member
House Committee on Energy & Commerce
2322 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Pallone and Ranking Member Walden:

On behalf of the Federation of American Hospitals (FAH), I am pleased to offer our strong support for *H.R. 728, Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019* as amended by the Subcommittee on Health during its July 11, 2019 mark-up. As you are aware, during the Subcommittee's consideration of the legislation, the Members adopted an amendment by Representative Doris Matsui which made important modifications to the underlying legislation, including ensuring that all nurses practicing in critical shortage facilities have the opportunity to benefit from the Section 846 loan repayment program authorized in the legislation.

The FAH is the national representative of more than 1,000 investor-owned or managed community hospitals and health systems throughout the United States. Our members include hospitals in urban and rural America, as well as inpatient rehabilitation, psychiatric, long-term acute care, and cancer hospitals.

Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019 will extend critical nursing workforce development programs that invest in the education and training of our nation's nurses. This legislation will play a vital role in ensuring that nurses continue to provide high-quality care to patients across the nation, including in rural and underserved communities, by supporting nursing education, practice, recruitment, and retention. As amended, the legislation will also ensure that all nurses in critical shortage facilities are eligible for the loan repayment program.

We thank you for your leadership in advancing this legislation. We look forward to working with you to secure the amended legislation's passage through the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew M. Hanft". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a distinct "H" at the end.

cc: The Honorable Doris Matsui
The Honorable David Joyce