



The National Nursing Workforce Center Act (H.R.2411/S.1150)

The Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses (AMSUN) is the only specialty nursing organization dedicated to the practice of medical-surgical nursing. AMSUN and its more than 10,000 members represent nurses who have advanced organizational, prioritization, assessment, and communication skills and are leaders in coordinating care among interprofessional health care teams. Medical-surgical nursing is practiced in several settings across the health care industry, including hospitals, outpatient settings, in homes, via telemedicine and other non-traditional settings.

Nursing workforce centers (NWCs) are indispensable partners in addressing the current nurse staffing crisis. Currently, there are 39 state-based NWCs that collect critical data, publish reports on nursing supply, demand, and education, and exchange best practices. However, inadequate funding and constrained resources limit NWCs' efforts and Congressional action is needed to strengthen state-based NWCs and fortify the national nursing workforce.

The National Nursing Workforce Center Act of 2023

The bipartisan and bicameral *National Nursing Workforce Center Act* (H.R.2411/S.1150) was introduced by Representatives Young Kim (CA-40) and Lisa Blunt Rochester (DE-AL) and Senators Thom Tillis (R-NC) and Jeff Merkley (D-OR) on March 30, 2023. The legislation would help stabilize and strengthen the nursing workforce by:

- Funding a 2-year pilot grant program through the Health Resources and Services Administration to support state-based nursing workforce centers.
- Broadening HRSA's authority under the Public Health Service Act to establish a dedicated nursing research and technical assistance center under the Health Workforce Research Center Program.
- Improving data collection and standardization to help assess critical gaps within the nursing workforce and health care at large, and how public-private partnerships can help address these challenges.
- Collaborating with state and regional health workforce centers to identify and deliver strategies to alleviate nursing shortages and empower the next generation of nurses.

Recommendation: AMSUN joins with a broad group of national stakeholders in urging Members of Congress to cosponsor the National Nursing Workforce Center Act of 2023 (H.R.2411 and S.1150).