June 17, 2013

The Honorable Marilyn Tavenner
Administrator
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Department of Health and Human Services
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244

Dear Ms. Tavenner,

The 50 undersigned members representing the Nursing Community, a forum comprised of national professional nursing associations that builds consensus and advocates on a wide spectrum of healthcare and nursing issues, would like to congratulate you on your confirmation as the Administrator for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Collectively, the Nursing Community represents nearly one million registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, nurse executives, nursing students, nursing faculty, and nurse researchers. We are thrilled to have a dynamic nurse leader in this highly influential role, and are confident your expertise will successfully direct CMS in its activities to improve the health of the nation.

As you know, communities and populations across the country are increasingly depending on healthcare services that aim to reduce chronic illness, promote public health, and place the patient at the center of healthcare decisions. As a former practicing nurse with extensive experience in administrative roles at both the state and federal levels, you hold the expertise necessary to address these priorities. We believe this will be fundamental to CMS’s accomplishments during a time of great transition within the healthcare system. As CMS looks to implement models of care delivery that increase access to high-quality, cost-effective care, we are certain your leadership will effectively guide the agency in this mission.

Again, we would like to sincerely congratulate you on your appointment, and we look forward to supporting the work of CMS under your leadership. If our organizations can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the convener of the Nursing Community Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto at smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu, or at 202-463-6930, ext. 247.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nurses
American Academy of Nursing
American Assembly for Men in Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
American Association of Nurse Assessment Coordination
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Nephrology Nurses' Association
American Nurses Association
American Organization of Nurse Executives
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association
American Psychiatric Nurses Association
American Society for Pain Management Nursing
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses
Association of Public Health Nurses
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service
Dermatology Nurses' Association
Developmental Disabilities Nurses Association
Emergency Nurses Association
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association
Infusion Nurses Society
International Association of Forensic Nurses
International Nurses Society on Addictions
International Society of Psychiatric Nursing
National American Arab Nurses Association
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of School Nurses
National Black Nurses Association
National Nursing Centers Consortium
National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs
Oncology Nursing Society
Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
Public Health Nursing Section, American Public Health Association
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates
The Quad Council of Public Health Nursing Organizations
Visiting Nurses Associations of America
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society