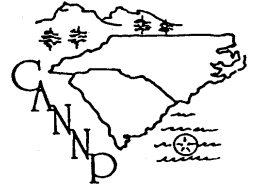


**National Association of  
Neonatal Nurse Practitioners**

*A division of NANN*



**National  
Association of  
Neonatal  
Nurses**



## **RESPONSE TO STIMULUS PACKAGE FUNDING FOR NURSING AND HEALTHCARE INITIATIVES**

On February 17, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2008 (H.R.1), a \$787 billion stimulus package, was signed into law by President Obama. Within the context of this package, \$200 million has been authorized for funding of Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs and Title VII Health Professions Training Programs.

Since their inception 45 years ago, Title VIII programs have been the largest source of federal funding for nursing education. These programs have supported the education and careers of thousands of future nurses, advanced practice nurses, and nurse faculty. However, in recent years, Title VIII funding has remained stagnant and has not kept pace with inflation or rising educational costs. Therefore, the above listed organizations were delighted to see that President Obama and Congress believed that making an investment in the Title VIII programs was essential in our nation's ability to fill vacant nursing and nursing faculty positions. Nursing funding will impact all sectors of the healthcare industry including the acute care setting, home healthcare, nursing homes, health departments, and community health centers.

This package includes additional funding for medical care to the underserved through state Medicaid programs. Funding to help providers who serve Medicaid patients obtain Health Information Technology is included to stimulate the development of electronic medical records and communication. These much needed funds will be made available to nurse practitioner practices and nurse managed clinics that serve Medicaid patients.

The funding provided in this stimulus package is vitally important to the continued ability of nurses and advanced practice nurses to provide quality and cost effective care. The above listed organizations have worked in collaboration with the greater nursing community to sustain these very important inclusions in the stimulus package.

Sincerely,

Robin L. Bissinger

Chair, National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners (NANNP)

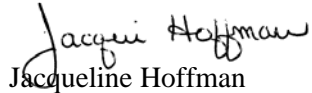
Lori Armstrong

President, National Association of Neonatal Nurses (NANN)



Lee Shirland

President, Carolina's Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners (CANNP)



Jacqueline Hoffman

President, Florida Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners (FANNP)



Bridget Cross

President, Texas Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners (TxANNP)