



April 3, 2023

The Honorable Jeff Merkley  
United States Senate  
531 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thom Tillis  
United States Senate  
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mark Kelly  
United States Senate  
516 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roger Wicker  
United States Senate  
425 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Merkley, Senator Tillis, Senator Kelly, and Senator Wicker:

AARP, on behalf of our nearly 38 million members and all older Americans nationwide, is pleased to endorse the National Nursing Workforce Center Act (S. 1150). Your bipartisan legislation would support our national nursing workforce through better information gathering and coordinating of policies at the state and federal levels.

Health care provider workforce shortages are of increasing concern as the Medicare population grows, and AARP hears regularly from our members about trouble accessing care. Tackling this problem requires addressing physician, nursing, clinician, and family caregiver workforces. Your bill would take the important step of boosting research and coordinated policy action regarding nursing shortages by establishing a Health Resources and Services Administration pilot program for state-based nursing workforce centers, as well as give HRSA's national workforce centers the authority to address nursing issues. These centers will monitor and collect data on nursing workforce needs and trends just as is done for other health professions. A national, coordinated effort between existing state-based nursing workforce centers and HRSA will make it easier to develop informed interventions to recruit, train, and retain nurses.

We appreciate your efforts to increase the number and quality of nurses in our health care system. AARP believes nurses are key to improving access to high-quality health care. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or have your staff contact Andrew Scholnick on our Government Affairs team at [ascholnick@aarp.org](mailto:ascholnick@aarp.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Bob Sweaney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bob" being particularly prominent.

Senior Vice President  
Government Affairs