

“Hospice and palliative care nurses have been impacted by the pandemic in ways we never could have imagined. Now more than ever, our specialty needs this investment to reinvigorate our workforce and prioritize that all patients with serious illness have access to highly skilled and passionate hospice and palliative care nurses. We appreciate Senator Baldwin’s ongoing support of education and training funding for hospice and palliative care nurses with the introduction of PCHETA,” said **Cassandra Shumway, MS, RN, OCN, CHPN, UW Health Hospitals and Clinics, Palliative Care RN Coordinator.**

“We are grateful for Senators Baldwin and Capito for their leadership in introducing the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA). PCHETA addresses long-term staffing shortages that have drastically worsened over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic,” said **President and CEO of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and Hospice Action Network, Edo Banach.** “Every American facing a serious or life-limiting illness deserves access to quality hospice and palliative care. To realize this guarantee, we desperately need to train more doctors and nurses in the field of palliative medicine. We call on Congress to address this growing emergency: pass PCHETA to support Americans with serious illnesses.”

“All people possess inherent dignity and are worthy of respect, love and support. Palliative care is focused on providing patients with relief from the symptoms, pain and stress of a serious illness with the goal of improving quality of life for both the patient and the family. *The Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act* makes a critical contribution to ensuring that all patients and their families are provided the life-affirming support and dignity they deserve,” said **Sister Mary Haddad, RSM, President and CEO Catholic Health Association of the United States.**

“The Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) applauds Senators Baldwin and Capito for their continued leadership in reintroducing PCHETA. We strongly believe an investment to prepare a well-educated health care workforce in palliative care will help meet the needs of patients with serious illness, including cancer” said **ONS National President, Jeannine M. Brant, PhD, APRN, AOCN®, FAAN**

“ACS CAN is thrilled to see the Palliative Care Education and Training Act introduced in the Senate. Ensuring health care providers can be trained in this specialized, coordinated form of care and providing funding for robust public education will make a tremendous difference in the lives of all those who’ve been affected by cancer. We commend Sens. Baldwin and Capito for their steadfast commitment to palliative care and to improving patients’ quality of life,” said **Lisa Lacasse, MBA, President of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network.**

“The pandemic has highlighted both the increased need for high-quality hospice and palliative care, as well as the gaping shortages in professionals trained in these critical disciplines that improve quality of life for vulnerable patients and their families. Our country has never needed a robust serious illness care workforce more, which is why The National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC) applauds Senators Baldwin and Capito and their colleagues for reintroducing the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA),” said **William Dombi, NAHC President.** “The COVID-19 crisis has reminded us all that the

compassionate and holistic services embodied by hospice and palliative care are not a nice-to-have – they are a must-have. PCHETA is transformative legislation, and would go a long way towards ensuring there are more providers capable of delivering this care across all settings, including and especially patients’ own homes and communities.”

“VITAS Healthcare applauds the leadership of Sens. Baldwin and Capito in reintroducing PCHETA, legislation that is vital to the hospice and palliative care community. Hospice and palliative care have time and again proven to improve patient outcomes and lower healthcare costs. We must do all we can to support the essential care teams who are working with patients and families to ensure the best quality of life,” said **Nick Westfall, President & CEO of VITAS Healthcare**. “VITAS has provided hospice care to thousands of Wisconsin residents and families for nearly three decades. This legislation is critical to supporting and expanding the hospice and palliative care workforce through training, research, and other important incentives.”

“The Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC) applauds Senators Baldwin and Capito for championing the Palliative Care Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA). PCHETA addresses the critical need to grow the palliative care workforce and increase public awareness of palliative care. Passage of the bill would be an important step toward improving quality of life for all Americans living with serious illness and their loved ones,” said **Brynn Bowman, CAPC CEO**. “We thank Senators Baldwin and Capito for their leadership on this effort and look forward to continuing our work together to achieve the vision of palliative care everywhere.”

"Palliative care is a team-based healthcare specialty focused on improving quality of life for patients and their families living with serious illness. By providing an added layer of support to patients, families, and their clinicians undergoing all forms of medical treatments, palliative care has been shown to reduce pain and other distressing symptoms, enhance quality of life, and improve survival. As more and more Americans are living longer and with serious and chronic health conditions, the need for high quality palliative care has never been greater” said **Sean Morrison, MD, Chair, Brookdale Department of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine and Director, National Palliative Care Research Center, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai**. “As Chair of the largest department of Geriatric and Palliative Medicine in the country, and on behalf of my patients and their families, I cannot thank Senators Baldwin and Capito enough for reintroducing the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act. The investment in growing this critical area of healthcare will ensure that millions of American will achieve the best quality of life for as long as possible in the setting of serious and chronic illness.”