National Alliance for Care at Home Champions Bipartisan Legislation to Transform Access to Quality In-Home Skilled Nursing

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(Alexandria, VA, and Washington, DC) – The National Alliance for Care at Home (the Alliance) is pleased to support the introduction of the *Continuous Skilled Nursing Quality Improvement Act of 2025*. This bipartisan legislation, <u>Senate Bill 1920</u>, introduced by Senator Thom Tillis (R-NC) and Senator Maggie Hassan (D-NH) aims to improve the quality and accessibility of skilled nursing care by modernizing Medicaid's approach to private duty nursing.

This legislation addresses critical gaps in care that leave thousands of medically complex patients and their families struggling to access consistent, quality skilled nursing services in their homes—a situation that has reached crisis levels in many communities across the nation.

The bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to work with stakeholders, including providers, patient advocacy groups, and state Medicaid agencies, to develop national quality standards. These standards will improve oversight and ensure that Medicaid patients receive high-quality care from licensed nurses. Other key provisions of the bill include ensuring Medicaid providers are not subject to Medicare home health agency conditions of participation and expanding Medicaid's home and community-based services (HCBS) waiver program to include continuous skilled nursing care.

"We are proud to champion the *Continuous Skilled Nursing Quality Improvement Act* and want to thank Senators Tillis, Sullivan, Hassan, and Cortez Masto for their leadership on this legislation. This bill will make important updates to the continuous skilled nursing services program, including improving quality measurement, clarifying provider participation requirements, and updating the benefit to reflect modern service delivery. These improvements will increase access to services and improve the quality of care provided to individuals in Medicaid," said Alliance CEO, Dr. Steve Landers.

"Patients and families who rely on in-home skilled nursing are being left behind due to outdated regulations and inconsistent standards," said Senator Tillis. "I'm proud to introduce this bipartisan legislation to modernize support for those with serious medical needs by removing red tape and creating consistent guidelines that will improve quality of care."

The Alliance will continue to work closely with Congress, HHS, and state Medicaid agencies to advocate for swift passage and effective implementation of this legislation.