

# Care And Cost

Top Original and Republished Health Care Writing From Around The Web



[Home](#) [Interest Areas](#) [Resources](#) [Using This Site](#) [Disclaimer](#) [About](#)

← [The War on Health Care Fraud Needs a Champion](#)

[US Doctors Less Sanguine About Health IT's Benefits](#) →

[Search C&C](#)

## The National Nurse Act of 2011

Posted on [January 11, 2012](#) by [Brian Klepper](#)

Brian Klepper



On December 15, [Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson](#) (TX-30) introduced [HR 3679, The National Nurse Act of 2011](#).

The legislation, co-led by [Rep. Peter King](#) (NY-3), would elevate the existing Chief Nurse Officer of the US Public Health Service to **the National Nurse for Public Health**, a new full time leadership position that can focus nationally on health promotion and disease prevention priorities.



Teri Mills, a Certified Nurse Educator at Portland Community College in Oregon and President of the National Nursing Network Organization (NNNO), introduced the idea of a National Nurse in a 2005 NY Times op/ed. Here is an excerpt from that article.

*...Nurses are considered the most honest and ethical professionals, according to a recent Gallup poll. It's the nurse whom the patient trusts to explain the treatment ordered by a doctor. It is the nurse who teaches new parents how to care for their newborn. It is the nurse who explains to the family how to comfort a dying loved one.*

*Now, I'm not saying that a National Nurse will become a household name immediately. But given all that's at stake – the health of a nation – it seems to me that we should at least give nurses a try.*



Teri Mills, MS, RN, CNE

### Follow Care & Cost via Email

Enter your email address to receive notifications of new Care & Costs posts by email.

Join 298 other followers

### Click to Read the Legal Complaint From GA PCPs



Go to [www.saveprimarycare.com](http://www.saveprimarycare.com) to learn more and to contribute.

Follow

### Follow "Care And Cost"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 298 other followers

Here's what I'd have the National Nurse do. She or he would highlight health care education through 15-minute weekly broadcasts that would also be available on the Internet. The emphasis would be on prevention: how to have a healthy heart; how to raise your teenagers without going crazy; how to avoid being swept into the growing tide of obesity.

The Office of the National Nurse would yield benefits in a multitude of ways. The informational programs would decrease dependence on a health care system that is not only expensive but at times inaccessible, especially for those who lack insurance or live in rural areas. Through the office, nurses could sign up for a National Nurse Corps that would organize activities to enhance health in their communities. A National Nurse would give public recognition to the valuable work that nurses perform each day; if we're lucky, the National Nurse would help stem the nursing shortage by attracting people to the profession.

Ms. Mills is right. Physicians may drive care, but nurses are on the front line with patients delivering it. Nurses are among our most capable and under-appreciated professional resources. Patients respect and respond to them.

Against a backdrop of overwhelming chronic disease and other maladies, why not give nurses the national visibility and respect that is commensurate with the trust that patients give them. Kudos to Ms. Mills for spearheading this effort, as well as to Anne Llewellyn, former President of the Case Management Society of America and another wonderful nurse educator, for alerting me to the National Nurse.

If you're a nurse (or someone else) who wants to support this project – including help in contacting your US Representative to co-sponsor - contact [teri@nationalnurse.info](mailto:teri@nationalnurse.info).

Rate this:  10 Votes

Share this:



Like this:  2 bloggers like this post.



**About Brian Klepper**

Brian Klepper is a health care analyst and the Chief Development Officer of WeCare TLC onsite clinics.

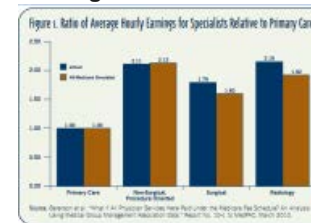
[View all posts by Brian Klepper](#)

This entry was posted in [Market Dynamics](#), [Medical Management](#), [Policy/Law/Regulation](#), [Quality](#), [Social Media](#) and tagged [Anne Llewellyn](#), [Disease Management](#), [Health Promotion](#), [National Nurse](#), [Teri Mills](#), [US Public Health Service](#). Bookmark the [permalink](#).

← The War on Health Care Fraud Needs a Champion      US Doctors Less Sanguine About Health IT's Benefits →

**2 Responses to *The National Nurse Act of 2011***

**PCP-Specialist Hourly Earnings Under MFS**



**Most Popular**

- [Pay Some Doctors More to Save Money](#)
- [Top 9 Health Care Systems in the World](#)
- [Workers' Comp Medical to be Federalized](#)
- [Will the Quantified Self Movement Take Off in Health Care?](#)
- [Should Family Physicians Leave the RUC?](#)

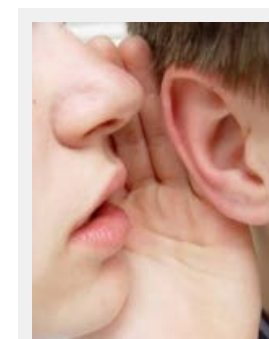
**Just Arrived**

- [Free Our Data and Improve Public Health!](#)
- [Will the Quantified Self Movement Take Off in Health Care?](#)
- [Pay Some Doctors More to Save Money](#)
- [Workers' Comp Medical to be Federalized](#)
- [Should Family Physicians Leave the RUC?](#)

**Be Part of What We Do! Tell Someone About C&C!**

Got a health care insight? Write for C&C. Send your ideas or article to Brian ([bklepper@gmail.com](mailto:bklepper@gmail.com)).

Seen something particularly interesting on C&C? Let your colleagues and friends know about us.



Like C&C? Pass it on!



**National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners** says:

January 11, 2012 at 10:54

Please let your readers know about National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners NCCDP Alzheimer's and Dementia Staff Education Week Feb 14-21 and we provide from Nov to March 1 FREE staff in-services to train your staff that includes power point, hand outs, pre tests and post tests. Please see nccdp.org as the deadline to download is March 1st. Thank you Sandra Stimson Executive Director

[Reply](#)



**National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners** says:

January 12, 2012 at 09:43

National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners Supports the National Nurse Act

[Reply](#)

## Leave a Reply

Enter your comment here...

Fill in your details below or click an icon to log in:



Email (required) (Address never made public)

Name (required)

Website

Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

Notify me of new posts via email.

### Health News From KHN

- Obama Confident The Health Law Will Be Upheld April 3, 2012
- Health Law Action At The High Court Takes A Political Toll April 3, 2012
- FTC Blocks Ohio Hospital Merger; Kan. Mental Hospital's 'Poor Working Conditions' April 3, 2012
- Norway Study Raises New U.S. Mammogram Overdiagnosis Questions April 3, 2012
- Health Care Issues Among Women Voters Fueling Obama Lead On Romney April 3, 2012
- FTC Approval Of Express Scripts-Medco Merger Triggers New Battlegrounds April 3, 2012
- Blues Insurers Win Antitrust Case In Mich., See Profits Increase 20% In Minn. April 3, 2012
- White House, FDA Often Clash April 3, 2012
- Wash. State Suspends ER-Payment Plan; Penn. 'Slashes' Kids From Medicaid Rolls April 3, 2012
- CMS: Medicare Advantage, Part D To Get 3 Percent Boost In 2013 Reimbursements April 3, 2012

### Get C&C Delivered!

- [RSS - Posts](#)
- [RSS - Comments](#)

### Email Subscription

Enter your email address to subscribe to this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 298 other followers

### Article Archive

Select Month

### Blogroll

- [Running A Hospital](#) Terrific, wide-ranging insights by a large hospital CEO, who came originally from outside the industry.
- [Prepared Patient Forum](#) Deep, practical insights by an experienced and thoughtful patient and patient advocate.
- [Health As Human Capital Foundation Blog](#) In depth analysis of the interactions between policy, benefit structure and productivity.
- [The Government We Deserve](#) The social implications of the math from a longtime DC-based economist.

- [The Health Care Blog](#) Health care topics of every kind, led by the encyclopedic, witty and seemingly-everywhere Matthew Holt
- [The Doctor Weighs In](#) Pat Salber and Dov Michaeli have built one of the most consistently enlightening and engaging health care sites, suitable for professionals and thoughtful lay people. Breezy writing and often a big Wow factor.
- [Klepper on Health Care and Other Mysteries](#) Brian on Everything
- [Health Policy and Marketplace Review](#) Top DC Analyst and Former Insurance Exec Bob Laszewski on Health Policy and Market Dynamics
- [MedInnovation Blog](#) Long time industry- and politics-watcher Richard Reece, MD's ruminations on unfolding health care events.
- [HISTalk](#) Health IT news and opinion from a deeply knowledgeable industry insider.

FOLLOW US ON  >

#### C&C Tweets

- Free Our Data and Improve Public Health!  
<http://t.co/owZ3GXVI>  
12 hours ago
- Will the Quantified Self Movement Take Off in Health Care? <http://t.co/e3GepYir>  
12 hours ago
- Pay Some Doctors More to Save MRuoney <http://t.co/WKvzclQC>  
1 day ago
- Workers' Comp Medical to be Federalized <http://t.co/3Cdtm0kB>  
1 day ago
- Should Family Physicians Leave the RUC? <http://t.co/iYKZuUR4>  
3 days ago
- Day Three - The Wrap Up  
<http://t.co/BjIDZ7AR> 4 days ago

```
_qoptions={
qacct:"p-2fAff6Cl7js5Y"
};
```

Care And Cost

Theme: Twenty Ten  Blog at WordPress.com.