VNAA Advancing Nonprofit Home Healthcare and Hospice

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Media Release

VNAA Reacts to the Supreme Court Decision

Washington, DC – June 28, 2012 -- Just minutes ago, the Supreme Court ruled to substantially uphold the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). The Visiting Nurse Associations of America (VNAA) is carefully reviewing the Supreme Court decision to determine its full impact on all Americans with a special focus on patients receiving home health and hospice care.

VNAA is pleased that the court has ruled 5-4 in favor of preserving a majority of the Affordable Care Act but the opinion is complex and will require further analysis. One area of concern is the implications of the court's ruling on expansion of the Medicaid program. VNAA urges policymakers to move forward on implementing critical provisions in the legislation, such as the Vulnerable Patient study that will evaluate access to home health care for nation's most underserved patients.

"We look forward to working with policymakers to ensure all provisions affecting home health and hospice are implemented in ways that protect access to care, particularly for our nation's most vulnerable patients," stated Andy Carter, President and CEO of the Visiting Nurse Associations of America.

VNAA members are well positioned to play a leading role in carrying out many of the provisions in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, especially as they relate to bolstering community-based care, providing healthcare to low-income and vulnerable individuals and identifying ways to cracking down on waste, fraud and abuse.

With the majority of the law's constitutionality now established, VNAA stands ready to continue working with policymakers to improve quality of care and expand access.

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About VNAA: *The VNAA is the national association that supports, promotes and advances nonprofit providers of home and community-based healthcare, hospice and health promotion services to ensure quality care for their communities. VNAA members share a mission to provide cost-effective and compassionate care to some of the nation's most vulnerable individuals, particularly the elderly and individuals with disabilities. Visit www.VNAA.org.*