

# AANA News Bulletin

A Publication of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists



July 2006

remarked Barbara Blakeney, RN, MS, president of the American Nurses Association, which is a member of the coalition. "As leaders of the health community, this coalition seeks to maintain the broadest range of provider choices for everyone," said Blakeney.

The coalition questions the objectives of the AMA and other physician organizations when they seek to advise consumers, regulators, policymakers and insurers on the ability of other healthcare professionals to offer the services they are allowed by law to provide. These healthcare providers are a critical source of care for patients throughout the United States, especially those who live in rural and medically underserved urban areas. Patients who live in rural areas have fewer options to meet their needs, and

## Coalition for Patients' Rights Calls on AMA to Cease Divisive Efforts to Limit Patients' Choice of Providers

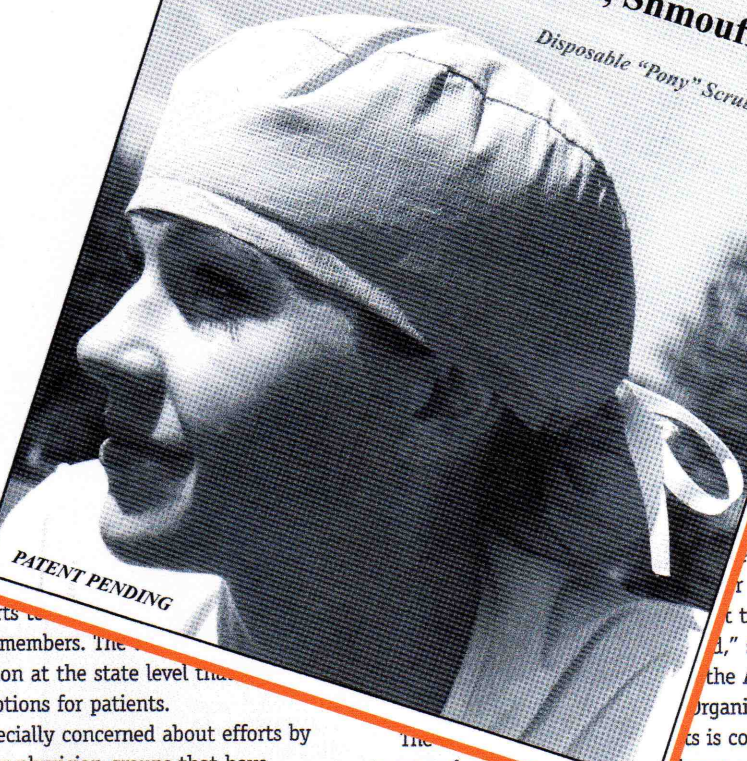
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physician groups their divisive efforts to practice rights of CPR members. The coalition calls for an end to legislation at the state level that would reduce provider options for patients.

The CPR is especially concerned about efforts by the AMA and other physician groups that have formed the "Scope of Practice Partnership" to study the work and qualifications of "allied health professionals" in rural and underserved areas.

"Limiting the ability of healthcare professionals to practice and provide appropriate care will place an enormous burden on the healthcare system,"

The coalition is continuing to expand and invite more healthcare organizations to join. For more information about the Coalition for Patients' Rights, please visit [www.patientsrightsnow.org](http://www.patientsrightsnow.org).

The Joint Statement of the Coalition is found on page 7.

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