



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**  
**HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**  
**WASHINGTON DC**

21 January 2019

Dear Nursing Colleagues,

On behalf of the more than 5,000 Registered Nurses serving in the Air Force as active duty, reserve, and guard Nurse Corps officers, I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for your support and recognition of our military service. I am also seeking your support to rescind options that allow military nurses to renew their registered nurse license for a reduced or waived fee.

Air Force guidance states that Nurse Corps officers “must possess and maintain an active, current, valid and unrestricted license from a U.S. jurisdiction before practicing independently within the defined scope of their specialty”. A registered nurse license obtained by a military nurse at a reduced or waived rate compared to other nurses in that jurisdiction meets our definition of a restricted license. While unintended, reduced licensure fees limit the practice of military nurses and potentially impact the readiness of our medical force.

I welcome the opportunity to thank you in person for your unwavering support of our Total Nursing Force. Should you have questions, or wish to clarify our concerns please contact me at [deedra.l.zabokrtsky.mil@mail.mil](mailto:deedra.l.zabokrtsky.mil@mail.mil) or 703.681-7557.

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