



July 12, 2017

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairmen Cole and Blunt and Ranking Members DeLauro and Murray:

The undersigned members of the Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC) write to recommend \$580 million for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s Title VII health professions and Title VIII nursing workforce development programs in the fiscal year 2018 Labor-HHS-Education spending bill. With the FY 2017 Omnibus Appropriations Act adding Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET) to Title VII, the FY 2018 HPNEC recommendation also includes funding for that program.

HPNEC is an alliance of national organizations representing schools, programs, health professionals, and students dedicated to ensuring the health care workforce of tomorrow has the training and resources needed to adequately serve the country's healthcare needs, including those in the most underserved communities.

Current and growing workforce shortages remain a healthcare access barrier for individuals in rural communities, children and families on low incomes, seniors, and veterans. Title VII and Title VIII are the only federally-funded programs that seek to improve the supply, distribution, and diversity of the health professions workforce, with a focus on primary care and interdisciplinary training. These programs help shape the workforce in targeted ways, such as promoting interprofessional, team-based care; promoting service in underserved areas; and filling other gaps in the health care workforce.

The full spectrum of Title VII and Title VIII programs is essential to prepare our next generation of medical professions to adapt to the changing health care needs of the nation's growing and aging population. By assessing the needs of the communities they serve, Title VII and Title VIII programs

bring together knowledge and skills across disciplines to provide effective, efficient, and coordinated care.

While HPNEC recognizes the challenges you face in the constrained budget environment, we urge you to ensure the next generation of health professionals is equipped to address the nation's health care complexities by providing \$580 million for Titles VII and VIII in FY 2018.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association  
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine  
American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of PAs  
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Association for Dental Research  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy  
American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine  
American Association of Nurse Practitioners  
American College of Osteopathic Internists  
American College of Physicians  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Dental Association  
American Dental Education Association  
American Dental Hygienists' Association  
American Geriatrics Society  
American Music Therapy Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Organization of Nurse Executives  
American Pediatric Society  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
American society for Clinical Laboratory Science  
American Society for Clinical Pathology  
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research  
Association of Academic Health Centers  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges  
Association of Chiropractic Colleges

Association of Departments of Family Medicine  
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors  
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs  
Association of Minority Health Professions  
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities  
Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric & Neonatal Nurses  
Council on Social Work Education  
Eldercare Workforce Alliance  
Emergency Nurses Association  
Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools  
HIV Medicine Association  
International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium  
National AHEC Organization  
National Association for Geriatric Education  
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists  
National Association of Community Health Centers  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Athletic Trainer's Association  
National Council for Diversity in the Health Professions  
National Council of Asian Pacific Islander Physicians  
National Hispanic Medical Association  
National League for Nursing  
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties  
North American Primary Care Research Group  
Oncology Nursing Society  
Pediatric Policy Council  
Physician Assistant Education Association  
Society for Pediatric Research  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine