



February 27, 2013

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Mr. President:

The 60 undersigned organizations of the Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC) write to thank you for your longstanding support of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s Title VII health professions and Title VIII nursing workforce development programs. HPNEC is an informal alliance of national organizations dedicated to ensuring the health care workforce is trained to meet the needs of the country's growing, aging, and diverse population. As you finalize your FY 2014 budget request, we respectfully urge you to continue to prioritize investments in the nation's health care workforce through Titles VII and VIII.

As you may know, 2013 marks the 50th anniversary of the programs. As we reflect on this monumental milestone, we can attribute their long-term viability to their ability to adapt to the nation's health care needs over time. Over the years, they have continued to adapt while also playing a critical role in increasing the size and diversity of the health care workforce and improving access to care for children, adults, and seniors. Further, their structure allows them to focus on timely topics such as cultural competency, interprofessional education, and behavioral and mental health issues.

As the only federal programs focused on filling the gaps in the supply of health professionals not met by traditional market forces, continued investments are needed to boost the supply of primary care practitioners, increase the diversity of the workforce, and improve the distribution of health professionals. Inadequate funding for the programs would reverse the progress to date in mitigating such challenges, particularly for special and underserved communities. Further, with the Affordable Care Act adding millions of newly insured Americans to the health care system, these programs are crucial to ensuring access to care for all populations.

HPNEC is grateful the administration has pledged not to cut discretionary spending further as recent budget negotiations have left Titles VII and VIII particularly vulnerable. We look forward to working with you to ensure a continued investment in the Title VII health professions and Title VIII nursing education programs into the future.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Society
American Academy of Family Physicians



American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Physician Assistants
American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
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 Family Physicians
American College of Osteopathic Internists
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Dental Education Association
American Geriatrics Society
American Nurses Association
American Occupational Therapy Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Pediatric Society
American Psychological Association
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
American Society for Clinical Pathology
Association for Minority Health Professions Schools
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
Association of Academic Health Centers
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Association of Departments of Family Medicine
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
California Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors
Coalition of Urban Serving Universities
Community-Campus Partnerships for Health
Council on Social Work Education
Health Professions Network
Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association
Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools
International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium
Movement is Life
National AHEC Organization



National Association for Geriatric Education
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
National Association of Geriatric Education Centers
National Association of Minority Medical Educators, Inc.
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Council for Diversity in the Health Professions
National Hispanic Medical Association
National League for Nursing
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
North American Primary Care Research Group
Oncology Nursing Society
Physician Assistant Education Association
Society for Pediatric Research
Society of General Internal Medicine
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine