



November 25, 2009

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

Dear Mr. President:

The 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 and Title VIII health professions and nursing education programs. We respectfully request that you continue to prioritize a strong health care workforce in your Fiscal Year 2011 budget request with a significant investment in Title VII and Title VIII that reflects the nation's urgent workforce needs. HPNEC is an alliance of national organizations representing schools, programs, health professionals, and students dedicated to ensuring that the health workforce is educated and trained to meet the needs of our diverse population.

We sincerely appreciate that your budget request for FY 2010 reflected your stated commitment to the Title VII and Title VIII programs and represented an increase over previous years, and are very pleased that funding for some health professions programs was included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. These investments have been an important first step in reversing the chronic underfunding of these essential programs. However, as Congress considers legislation to expand the nation's access to health care, it will be vital to continue placing the health professions programs on this budget trajectory.

As you know, the Title VII and Title VIII programs are an invaluable component of the nationwide health care safety net, improving the supply, distribution and diversity of health professionals nationwide. They not only prepare aspiring professionals to meet a critical workforce need, but also help to improve the health of our nation. With existing and looming provider shortages across all health professions disciplines, a continued commitment to funding the Title VII and Title VIII programs is essential.

Once again, thank you for your administration's renewed emphasis on and continued commitment to the success of the health professions education programs. We are truly grateful for your efforts to reinvest in Title VII and Title VIII, which are critical to preserving the health and well-being of the American people.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners  
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 College of Osteopathic Family Physicians  
American College of Physicians  
American College of Preventative Medicine  
American Dental Association  
American Dental Education Association  
American Geriatrics Society  
American Nurses Association  
American Osteopathic Association  
American Pediatric Association  
American Pediatric Society  
American Podiatric Medical Association  
American Public Health Association  
American Society of Radiologic Technologists  
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 Chairs  
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools  
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Coalition of Urban Serving Universities  
College of American Pathologists  
Community-Campus Partnerships for Health  
Council on Social Work Education  
Health Professions Network  
National AHEC Organization  
National Council for Diversity in Health Professions  
National Hispanic Medical Association  
National League for Nursing  
National Rural Health Association  
North American Primary Care Research Group  
Oncology Nursing Society  
Physician Assistant Education Association

Society for Pediatric Research  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Society of Public Health Education  
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine