



November 3, 2010

The Honorable David Obey  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Todd Tiahr  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairmen and Ranking Members:

The members of the Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC) thank you for your leadership on behalf of the health professions and nursing education programs authorized under Title VII and Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act. The undersigned member organizations respectfully urge you to ensure that the final FY 2011 Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill matches the highest level of support for the Title VII and Title VIII programs in the bills approved by the House subcommittee and the Senate full committee. HPNEC is grateful for the increases provided for many Title VII and Title VIII programs in the House and Senate bills and feels that fully funding these programs in FY 2011 is vital to meeting the health workforce needs of the country's most vulnerable populations.

As you know, the Title VII and Title VIII programs are the only federal programs dedicated to improving the supply, distribution, and diversity of the nation's health care workforce. While these programs play a key role in increasing access for the country's underserved communities, chronic underfunding has prevented the programs from operating at their full potential. A robust investment will support the education and training of hundreds of primary care physicians, nurses, dentists, allied health, public health, mental health, preventive medicine, and other health professionals to meet the ever-growing need. Strong support will ensure more minority and disadvantaged aspiring health professionals will have access to academic and financial assistance in pursuing health care careers. For the Title VII and Title VIII programs to continue on this trajectory, the final FY 2011 appropriations measure must include a strong investment for Title VII and Title VIII.



Again, HPNEC thanks you for your leadership on these important workforce programs and urges you to sustain the highest approved level of funding for the Title VII and Title VIII programs in the final FY 2011 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill. We look forward to continuing to work with you on these programs.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association  
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine  
American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners  
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 College of Osteopathic Family Physicians  
American College of Physicians  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Dental Education Association  
American Geriatrics Society  
American Medical Student Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Occupational Therapy Association  
American Osteopathic Association  
American Pediatric Society  
American Public Health Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science  
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 Minority Health Professions Schools  
Association of Professors of Medicine  
Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine  
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine  
Community-Campus Partnerships for Health  
Council on Social Work Education  
Health Professions Network  
Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools  
HIV Medicine Association  
National AHEC Organization  
National Association for Geriatric Education  
National Association of Geriatric Education Centers  
National Association of Medical Minority Educators  
National Athletic Trainers' Association  
National Hispanic Medical Association  
National League for Nursing  
National Network of Health Career Programs in Two-Year Colleges  
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