



March 27, 2014

The Honorable Jack Kingston  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

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

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

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

Dear Chairman Kingston, Chairman Harkin, Rep. DeLauro, and Senator Moran:

The 56 undersigned members of the Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC) write to recommend \$520 million for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s Title VII health professions and Title VIII nursing programs in the FY 2015 Labor-HHS-Education spending bill. HPNEC is an alliance of national organizations representing schools, programs, health professionals, and students dedicated to ensuring the health care workforce is trained to meet the needs of our diverse population.

Titles VII and 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. By providing educational and training opportunities to aspiring and practicing health professionals, the programs also play a critical role in helping the workforce adapt to meet the nation's changing health care needs. The programs continue to prepare health professionals for new care delivery models and emerging health care challenges, enhance the size and diversity of the health care workforce, and improve access to primary care for children, adults, and seniors. Further, their structure allows them to focus on timely topics, such as improving the cultural competency of the workforce and incorporating oral health and behavioral and mental health into primary care.

As demand for health professionals grows in the face of impending shortages and a growing, aging population, continuing the investment in health professions workforce development will be key to ensuring access to high quality care for all.

While HPNEC recognizes the challenges you face in a limited 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 \$520 million for Titles VII and VIII in FY 2015.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association  
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 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 Podiatric Medical Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science  
American Society for Clinical Pathology  
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 Rehabilitation Nurses  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Community-Campus Partnerships for Health  
Council on Social Work Education  
Eldercare Workforce Alliance  
Emergency Nurses Association  
Health Professions Network  
Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association  
Hispanic Serving Health Professions Schools  
National AHEC Organization  
National Association for Geriatric Education  
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists  
National Association of Geriatric Education Centers  
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