



November 12, 2014

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

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

Dear Chairmen Harkin and Kingston and Ranking Members Moran and DeLauro:

The 62 undersigned members of the Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC) write to urge you to include full funding for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s Title VII health professions and Title VIII nursing workforce development programs as you finalize fiscal year (FY) 2015 appropriations. 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 federal programs focused on improving the supply, distribution, and diversity of the health professions workforce. 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.

As demand for health professionals grows in the face of impending shortages, a robust investment in educating and training the workforce is key to ensuring access to high quality care for all. However, spending proposals that fail to support the full range of health professions programs under Titles VII and VIII will disrupt efforts to address some of the country's most pressing health care challenges, forcing health professions schools to eliminate recruitment and training opportunities that are essential to filling workforce gaps.

The nation faces a growing, aging population, and millions of newly insured Americans entering the health care system. While HPNEC recognizes the challenges you face in a 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 full funding 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 Dental Research
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 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 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
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Association of Clinicians for the Underserved
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 Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Coalition of Urban Serving Universities
Council on Social Work Education
Eldercare Workforce Alliance

Emergency Nurses Association
Health Professions Network
Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy
Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools
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 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 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