November 4, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray
Vice Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cole, Ranking Member DeLauro, Chair Collins, and Vice Chair Murray:

As Congress takes steps to consider final funding for fiscal year (FY) 2027 appropriations bills, the undersigned members of the Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC)[1] urge you to work in a bipartisan manner to expeditiously finalize a full-year FY 2027 Labor, Health, and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) appropriations bill by the end of the calendar year that invests maximally in the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Title VII health professions and Title VIII nursing workforce development programs.

The HRSA Title VII health professions and Title VIII nursing workforce development programs successfully recruit, train, and support physicians, physician assistants, nurses, dentists, geriatricians, mental and behavioral health providers, public health practitioners, social workers, pharmacists, and other frontline health care workers critical to addressing the nation's health

[1] The Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC) is an alliance of more than 90 national organizations representing schools, students, and health professionals dedicated to ensuring that the health care workforce is trained to meet the needs of our entire population. Together, the members of HPNEC advocate for adequate and continued support for the health professions and nursing workforce development programs authorized under Titles VII and VIII of the Public Health Service Act and administered by HRSA. Additional information about HPNEC is available at hpnec.org.

needs. Moreover, these programs deliver results where they are needed most, training providers to practice across the United States, including in rural and underserved communities, focusing on interprofessional education and workforce retention. As our nation faces dire current and future health workforce shortages, the Title VII health professions and Title VIII nursing workforce development programs help further support a high quality and well-educated health workforce, which ultimately improves patients' access to care.

HPNEC members appreciate the House Appropriations Committee's efforts to advance a proposal that would maintain and increase funding for the Title VII and VIII programs. HPNEC members remain concerned that chronic underfunding for the HRSA Title VII and VIII programs will worsen our existing health workforce shortages and hinder our nation's ability to educate current and future providers. Moreover, while the House Appropriations Committee-approved Labor-HHS bill would increase funding for select Title VII and VIII programs, HPNEC members recommend that any increases to the programs do not come at the expense of other critical health professions programs. HPNEC urges lawmakers to finalize the FY 2027 Labor-HHS appropriation bill with additional investments into all the Title VII and VIII programs.

A strong investment in the Title VII and VIII programs is essential to helping address health workforce shortages in critical areas of need and shape the future health workforce at all stages of the continuum. **HPNEC strongly encourages the timely completion of the full-year FY 2027 appropriations bills, with funding of at least $1.590 billion allocated to these programs.**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Andrea Price-Carter, HPNEC Executive Director, at apricecarter@aamc.org, or Emily Prest, HPNEC Coalition Manager, at eprest@aamc.org.

Sincerely,

AAMC (Association of American Medical Colleges)
Academic Pediatric Association
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine
American Association of Nurse Practitioners

American Association of Psychiatric Pharmacists (AAPP)
American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges
American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Dental Education Association
American Geriatrics Society
American Pediatric Society
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
Association of Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU)
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of Schools Advancing Health Professions
Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry
Children's Hospital Association
Council on Social Work Education
Heart Failure Society of America
National AHEC Organization (NAO)
National Association for Geriatric Education
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National League for Nursing
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
Oncology Nursing Society
PA Education Association
Pediatric Policy Council
Society for Pediatric Research
Student National Medical Association