



April 10, 2017

The Honorable Tom Cole
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 Roy Blunt
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairmen Cole and Blunt and Ranking Members DeLauro and Murray:

On behalf of the 56 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community coalition, we would like to reiterate our request for you to please support **\$244 million for the Nursing Workforce Development programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.]) and \$157 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR, National Institutes of Health) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2017**. At a time when non-defense discretionary funding is particularly vulnerable to impending cuts, we respectfully implore you to safeguard the public's well-being by ensuring that federal investments for healthcare and research are sustained, if not bolstered. Collectively, the Nursing Community represents registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, nurse faculty, researchers, and students, and is committed to promoting efforts that advance the health of our nation through nursing care. As the demand for high-quality care intensifies, there must be a firm investment in the nation's largest healthcare workforce; registered nurses.

Administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs have been instrumental in bolstering and sustaining the nation's nursing pipeline for over 50 years. Title VIII programs address all aspects of the nursing workforce demand, including education, practice, recruitment, retention, and most important, increasing access to care to communities that need it most, including those in rural and underserved areas.

For example, the NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program (LRP) and Scholarship Program (SP) provide support for students, practicing nurses, and nurse faculty who agree to serve full-time in Critical Shortage Facilities, thus helping to connect these high-quality clinicians to areas that struggle to retain health providers. In Academic Year 2014-2015, the LRP and SP collectively supported 1,178 awards. Moreover, 55% of LRP recipients voluntarily extended their service contract. The Title VIII Nurse

Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention program supported over 5,500 students last academic year, partnering with 718 clinical sites, of which 86% were located in Medically Underserved Areas.

For 30 years, scientific endeavors through NINR have been integral to advancing the health of individuals, families, and communities. True to NINR's mission, research projects funded through this institute are aimed at reducing burdensome chronic illness, improving end of life care, and promoting patient-centered care across the life continuum. Additionally, NINR contributes to advancements in genomics, precision medicine, and team science.

We respectfully impress upon you the importance of supporting the future health of our nation by providing \$244 million for the Nursing Workforce Development Programs and \$157 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research. If our organizations can be of any assistance, or if you have any questions, please contact Convener of the Nursing Community, Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, at Smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu or 202-463-6930, ext. 247.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing
American Academy of Nursing
American Assembly for Men in Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Critical-Care Nurses
American Association of Heart Failure Nurses
American Association of Neuroscience Nurses
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
American Association of Nurse Assessment Coordination
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American Association of Occupational Health Nurses
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Nephrology Nurses' Association
American Nurses Association
American Organization of Nurse Executives
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association
American Psychiatric Nurses Association
American Public Health Association, Public Health Nursing Section
American Society for Pain Management Nursing
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses
Association for Radiologic and Imaging Nursing
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses
Association of Public Health Nurses
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of Veterans Affairs Nurse Anesthetists
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service
Dermatology Nurses' Association

Emergency Nurses Association
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association
Infusion Nurses Society
International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners
National Association of Neonatal Nurses
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of School Nurses
National Black Nurses Association
National Council of State Boards of Nursing
National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers
National Gerontological Nursing Association
National League for Nursing
National Nurse-Led Care Consortium
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs
Oncology Nursing Society
Organization for Associate Degree Nursing
Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society

CC:

Representative Mike Simpson	Senator Thad Cochran
Representative Steve Womack	Senator Richard Shelby
Representative Chuck Fleischmann	Senator Lamar Alexander
Representative Andy Harris, MD	Senator Lindsey Graham
Representative Martha Roby	Senator Jerry Moran
Representative Jaime Herrera Beutler	Senator Shelley Moore Capito
Representative John Moolenaar	Senator James Lankford
Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard	Senator John Kennedy
Representative Barbara Lee	Senator Marco Rubio
Representative Mark Pocan	Senator Richard Durbin
Representative Katherine Clark	Senator Jack Reed
	Senator Jeanne Shaheen
	Senator Jeff Merkley
	Senator Brian Schatz
	Senator Tammy Baldwin
	Senator Chris Murphy
	Senator Joe Manchin