



April 21, 2017

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Committee  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Committee  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Murray:

The 58 undersigned members of the Nursing Community respectfully request \$244 million for the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Nursing Workforce Development programs (authorized under Title VIII of the *Public Health Service Act* [42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.]) and \$160 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), one of the 27 Institutes and Centers within the National Institutes of Health (NIH)<sup>1</sup> as you work to complete your FY 2018 appropriations bill.

The Nursing Community is a coalition which includes national professional nursing associations that are the cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the profession. These organizations are committed to promoting America's health through the contributions made by the nursing profession. As the largest segment of the healthcare workforce with over four million licensed Registered Nurses (RNs), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), and nursing students, nurses are involved in every point of care and in every community.

For over 50 years, the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs have helped to build the supply and distribution of qualified nurses to meet our nation's healthcare needs. Title VIII programs provide students and practicing nurses exposure to caring for underserved populations. With over 65.9 million individuals living in HRSA-designated primary care Health Professional Shortage Areas, these programs are vital to sustaining and creating access. **The Nursing Community requests \$244 million for HRSA's Nursing Workforce Development programs in FY 2018.**

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<sup>1</sup> The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research requests at least \$2 billion above FY2017 for NIH, in addition to funds included in the *21st Century Cures Act* for targeted initiatives. The request level of \$160 million for NINR denotes the same percentage increase for NIH applied to NINR.

As one of the 27 Institutes and Centers at the NIH, NINR funds research that lays the groundwork for evidence-based nursing practice. NINR's research examines a variety of topics that will help nurses and other health professionals to make informed decisions about patient treatment. Our country must look toward the prevention aspect of health care as the vehicle for saving our system from further financial burden, and the work of NINR embraces this endeavor through research related to care management of patients during illness and recovery, reduction of risks for disease and disability, promotion of healthy lifestyles, enhancement of quality of life for those with chronic illness, and care for individuals at the end of life. **The Nursing Community requests \$160 million for NINR in FY 2018.**

Commitment of resources to the HRSA Nursing Workforce Development programs and to NINR is vital to ensuring a healthy population for our country. We urge you to support our Fiscal Year 2018 requests. Please contact Suzanne Miyamoto, convener of the Nursing Community, at [smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu](mailto:smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu) or 202-463-6930 ext. 247 for any additional assistance.

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 Nursing Informatics 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 periOperative Registered 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 Association of Forensic Nurses  
International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses  
National American Arab Nurses Association  
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists  
National Association of Hispanic Nurses  
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 Black Nurses Association  
National Council of State Boards of Nursing  
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  
Society of Pediatric Nurses  
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates  
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society

CC:

Senator Thad Cochran	Senator Richard Durbin
Senator Richard Shelby	Senator Jack Reed
Senator Lamar Alexander	Senator Jeanne Shaheen
Senator Lindsey Graham	Senator Jeff Merkley
Senator Jerry Moran	Senator Brian Schatz
Senator Shelley Moore Capito	Senator Tammy Baldwin
Senator James Lankford	Senator Chris Murphy
Senator John Kennedy	Senator Joe Manchin
Senator Marco Rubio	