

## URGENT CALL TO ACTION – Call Your Senators

Help bolster the country's nursing workforce by supporting education for a new generation of nurses and nurse leaders! Email and call your senators TODAY and urge them to support passage of Title VIII Reauthorization, without any last-minute provisions. Tell your senators how essential Title VIII Nursing Workforce programs are to you, to the nursing profession, and to our patients and communities! If you have been a recipient of the Title VIII Loan Repayment Program or any Title VIII Program, let your senators know. Your voice is vital to ensuring these nursing workforce programs are reauthorized in 2018!

### Phone Message for Senators:

*Note: You can reach your senators by calling the U.S. Capitol switchboard at 202/224-3121 and asking for each of your senators by name. When you are connected to a staff member, personalize and use the sample message below.*

### **Phone Script:**

- I am calling Senator [INSERT NAME] today as a nurse and as a constituent to urge [him/her] to pass the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act this Congress. Title VIII programs help build the supply, recruitment and retention of highly-educated nurses in our state and across the country.
- One of the programs under Title VIII, the NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program, is especially critical, as these funds are awarded to the areas that need them most—those nonprofit, public and government owned facilities located within a Health Profession Shortage Area scored 14 or higher (out of 25) and/or whose nurses have high debt-to-salary ratios. As it stands, HRSA is only able to award funding to approximately 25% of the completed applications under consideration each year.
- It is my understanding the Senate is considering broadening access to this important program to include for-profit hospitals. That could adversely affect those who currently receive funding and could derail broader Title VIII Reauthorization efforts.
- Without a current authorization these Title VIII programs are in jeopardy, as is the continued education of our nation's nurses who rely upon them.
- [INCLUDE YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE WITH TITLE VIII PROGRAMS AND THE POSITIVE IMPACT THEY HAVE HAD ON YOU, YOUR COMMUNITY, AND YOUR PATIENTS IF APPLICABLE]
- I urge Senator [INSERT NAME] to pass Title VIII Reauthorization without this new provision presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour.
- Thank you for your time, and I would be happy to discuss this further if it would be helpful.