



June 4, 2013

Dear Senator:

The 58 undersigned members of the Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC) write to thank you for demonstrating support for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s Title VII health professions and Title VIII nursing workforce development programs by joining one or both of the sign-on letters to appropriators led by Senator Jack Reed (D-R.I.) on Title VII and by Senator Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.) on Title VIII. HPNEC is an informal alliance of national organizations dedicated to ensuring the health care workforce is trained to meet the needs of the country's growing, aging, and diverse population.

Continuing the investment in health professions workforce development will be key to ensuring access to high quality care for all in light of a growing demand for health professionals; aging Baby Boomers requiring more care; and millions of Americans entering the health care system.

By providing educational and training opportunities to aspiring and practicing health professionals, Titles VII and VIII are the only federally-funded programs that seek to improve the supply, distribution, and diversity of the health professions workforce, filling gaps in the supply of health professionals not met by traditional market forces.

As you may know, 2013 marks the 50th anniversary of the programs, a testament to their longstanding success in helping the workforce respond to the nation's changing health care needs over time. Over the years, the programs have continued to adapt to prepare health professionals for new care delivery models and emerging health care challenges, enhancing the size and diversity of the health care workforce and improving access to primary care for children, adults, and seniors. Further, their structure allows them to focus on timely topics such as cultural competency, interprofessional education, and behavioral and mental health issues.

HPNEC is grateful for your support for the critical role these programs play in strengthening access to health care services in rural and urban underserved communities alike. Your support is particularly appreciated as the constrained budget environment threatens to eviscerate the modest federal investment in the programs and reverse progress made in mitigating the nation's health care workforce challenges. We look forward to working with you to prioritize a continued investment in the Title VII health professions and Title VIII nursing education programs in FY 2014.

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 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 Association of Nurse Practitioners
American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Dental Education Association
American Geriatrics Society
American Nurses Association
American Nurses Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Pediatric Society
American Podiatric Medical Association
American Psychological Association
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
American Society for Clinical Pathology
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
Association of Academic Health Centers
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
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 Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Coalition of Urban Serving Universities
Community-Campus Partnerships for Health
Council on Social Work Education
Emergency Nurses Association
Health Professions Network
Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association
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 Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
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