

ALERT ABOUT FUNDING FOR TITLE VI AND TITLE VII

Posted 12/06/2011

From: hp nec@lists.aamc.org [<mailto:hp nec@lists.aamc.org>]

Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 5:12 PM

Subject: [hp nec] FW: House Dems health professions letter

To: Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC)

Please see the Dear Colleague letter below circulated by the House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee Democrats regarding Title VII and Title VIII funding in FY 2012.

ALERT #5: The House Labor, Health, and Human Services & Education Appropriations Draft Guts Minority Health and Nursing Training Programs Dear Colleague:

We are writing to alert you to another issue in the draft mark posted on the Internet by Representative Dennis Rehberg, Chair of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education and Related Agencies. In this case, his proposal would reduce funding in fiscal year 2012 (FY12) for the training of health professionals by 62% below the current fiscal year. Specifically, the Title VII health professions training programs are reduced by \$185 million and the Title VIII nurse training programs are reduced by \$136 million.

At a time when there is a tremendous need to ensure that the healthcare workforce is ethnically, culturally, and geographically diverse, this bill represents a significant departure from our historic commitment to ensuring that all Americans have access to a qualified health care provider. The programs supported by Title VII and Title VIII improve diversity in the healthcare workforce, support the training of primary care medical and nursing professionals, and ensure interdisciplinary training through Area Health Education Centers. They also provide scholarships for disadvantaged and minority students and help training institutions establish and maintain key faculty positions. Without these programs, the health status gap will continue to widen between individuals in medically underserved communities and those Americans who are well served by our system.

The Labor-HHS-Ed subcommittee chairman's draft bill has not yet been considered by the subcommittee, but as Congress works to finalize the FY12 spending bills, we urge you to oppose the proposed cuts--and support at least level funding--for the health professions/nursing education programs.

Sincerely,

Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress

Nita Lowey
Member of Congress

Jesse Jackson, Jr.
Member of Congress

Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress

Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

