



January 28, 2011

Dear Member of Congress:

The Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC) would like to congratulate you on the start of the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress. HPNEC is an alliance of over 60 national organizations representing schools, programs, health professionals, and students dedicated to ensuring the nation's health care workforce is trained to meet the needs of our diverse populations. As you finalize FY 2011 appropriations, we encourage you to prioritize the nation's health care workforce through a strong investment in the Health Resources and Services Administration's health professions programs, authorized under Title VII and Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act.

The Title VII and Title VIII health professions and nursing programs provide education and training opportunities to a wide variety of health care professionals, both preparing them for career opportunities in the health professions and helping to bring health care services to our rural and underserved communities. The Title VII and Title VIII programs are the only federal programs designed to train health care providers in interdisciplinary settings to meet the needs of the country's special and underserved populations, as well as increase minority representation in the health care workforce.

By improving the supply, distribution, and diversity of the nation's health care professionals, the Title VII and Title VIII programs not only prepare aspiring professionals to meet the nation's workforce needs, but also help to improve access to care across all populations. The multi-year nature of health professions education and training, coupled with unprecedented existing and looming provider shortages across many disciplines and in many rural and underserved communities, necessitate a strong, continued, and reliable investment in the Title VII and Title VIII programs.

We recognize the fiscal difficulties facing the nation and we urge you to support the Title VII and Title VIII health professions programs. An investment in these programs is not only an investment in the future of the health workforce, but in the future health and productivity of the nation. Providing adequate funding for Titles VII and VIII not only will help improve patient care, but also will prepare individuals for careers in the health professions and fill vacancies where it's most needed. We wish you the best during the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress and look forward to working with you on these important programs.

Sincerely,



Academic Pediatric Association  
American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners  
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 College of Osteopathic Family Physicians  
American College of Physicians  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Dental Association  
American Dental Education Association  
American Geriatrics Society  
American Nurses Association  
American Osteopathic Association  
American Podiatric Medical Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science  
American Society for Clinical Pathology  
American Society of Radiologic Technologists  
Association of Academic Health Centers  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of Departments of Family Medicine  
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors  
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Community-Campus Partnerships for Health  
Council on Social Work Education  
Health Professions Network  
HIV Medicine Association  
International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium  
National Association of Minority Medical Educators, Inc.  
National Athletic Trainers' Association  
National Council for Diversity in the Health Professions  
National Hispanic Medical Association  
National League for Nursing  
National Network of Health Career Programs in Two-Year Colleges

2450 N Street, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20037 • 202-828-0525 • Fax 202-862-6218  
[www.aamc.org/advocacy/hpnec](http://www.aamc.org/advocacy/hpnec)



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