



February 3, 2016

Dear Member of Congress:

The 49 undersigned members of the Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC) write to thank you for your vote in support of the FY 2016 omnibus spending package, which continued funding for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s Title VII health professions and Title VIII nursing workforce development programs. HPNEC is an informal alliance of national organizations representing schools, programs, health professionals, and students dedicated to ensuring the health care workforce is trained to meet the needs of the country's growing, aging, and diverse population.

We appreciate that Congress worked in a bipartisan manner to pass a spending package that recognizes the importance of quality patient care and a diverse, well-trained health care workforce. These programs help shape the workforce in targeted ways, such as promoting interprofessional, team-based care; promoting service in underserved areas; and filling other gaps in the health care workforce. As communities nationwide grapple with access challenges, we are pleased that Congress worked together to preserve the modest federal investment in HRSA's health professions education programs.

Funding for each of the Title VII and Title VIII programs is key to improving our nation's health as pressures on the workforce increase. We have a nation that is growing and becoming increasingly diverse. At a time when millions of Americans are accessing health care for the first time, it is crucial that we enhance the federal commitment to the programs that equip the next generation of health professionals to keep up with the increasing health care challenges of a changing population.

Again, we commend you for your support in passing this crucial spending package, and we look forward to working with you to prioritize continued support for these programs that are critical to ensuring that the health care workforce meets the needs of all Americans.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Family Physicians  
Academic Pediatric Association  
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Academy of Physician Assistants  
American Association for Dental Research  
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 Dental Association  
American Dental Education Association  
American Geriatrics Society  
American Nurses Association  
American Osteopathic Association  
American Pediatric Society  
American Podiatric Medical Association  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science  
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges  
Association of Clinicians for the Underserved  
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 Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses  
Coalition of Urban Serving Universities  
Council on Social Work Education  
Emergency Nurses Association  
Movement is Life  
National AHEC Organization  
National Association for Geriatric Education  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Council for Diversity in the Health Professions  
National League for Nursing  
National Network of Health Career Programs in Two Year Colleges  
North American Primary Care Research Group  
Oncology Nursing Society  
Pediatric Policy Council  
Physician Assistant Education Association  
Society for Pediatric Research  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine