



April 11, 2018

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Murray:

On behalf of the 56 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community Coalition, we request your support of **\$266 million for the Nursing Workforce Development programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.])** and **\$170 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR, National Institutes of Health) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2019**. At a time when non-defense discretionary funding is particularly vulnerable to impending cuts, we respectfully ask you to safeguard the public's well-being by ensuring that federal investments for healthcare and research are sustained.

Collectively, the Nursing Community Coalition represents over one million registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, nurse faculty, researchers, and students. The coalition is committed to promoting efforts that advance the health of our nation through nursing care. As the demand for high-quality care intensifies, there must be a firm investment in the nation's largest healthcare workforce—registered nurses. We want to take this time to thank your leadership and the support of the Labor-HHS-Education subcommittee members for making the increases to the Title VIII programs and NINR in FY 2018 a reality. Our member organizations appreciate the nearly 9% increase to the Title VIII programs and 5% increase to NINR, and believe this momentum will continue to propel progress in ensuring communities across the country have access to quality nursing care.

Administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs are instrumental in bolstering and sustaining the nation's nursing pipeline. Title VIII programs address all aspects of the nursing workforce demand, including education, practice, recruitment, retention, and most importantly, increasing access to care to communities that need it most—those in rural and underserved areas. It is critically important that these programs continue to have individual line items which include:

- Advanced Nursing Education (Sec. 811), which includes the Advanced Education Nursing Traineeships and Nurse Anesthetist Traineeships
- Nursing Workforce Diversity (Sec. 821)
- Nurse Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention (Sec. 831)

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- NURSE Corps Loan Repayment and Scholarship Programs (Sec. 846)
- Nurse Faculty Loan Program (Sec. 846A)
- Comprehensive Geriatric Education (Sec. 855)

For 30 years, scientific endeavors funded NINR have been integral to advancing the health of individuals, families, and communities. True to NINR’s mission, research projects funded through this institute are aimed at reducing burdensome chronic illness, improving end of life care, and promoting patient-centered care across the life continuum. Additionally, NINR funded-research contributes to make advancements in genomics, precision medicine, and team science.

We want to impress upon you the importance of supporting the future health of our nation by providing \$266 million for the Nursing Workforce Development Programs and \$170 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research in FY 2019. If our organizations can be of any assistance, or if you have any questions, please contact the Nursing Community Coalition’s Executive Director, Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, at Smiyamoto@aacnnursing.org or at 202-463-6930, ext. 247.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses
 American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing
 American Academy of Nursing
 American Association of Colleges of Nursing
 American Association of Critical-Care Nurses
 American Association of Heart Failure Nurses
 American Association of Neuroscience Nurses
 American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
 American Association of Nurse Assessment Coordination
 American Association of Nurse Practitioners
 American College of Nurse-Midwives
 American Nephrology Nurses Association
 American Nurses Association
 American Nursing Informatics Association
 American Organization of Nurse Executives
 American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association
 American Psychiatric Nurses Association
 American Society for Pain Management Nursing
 American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses
 Association for Radiologic and Imaging Nursing
 Association of Community Health Nursing Educators
 Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
 Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses
 Association of periOperative Registered Nurses
 Association of Public Health Nurses
 Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
 Association of Veterans Affairs Nurse Anesthetists

Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service
Dermatology Nurses' Association
Emergency Nurses Association
Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association
Infusion Nurses Society
International Association of Forensic Nurses
International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners
National Association of Neonatal Nurses
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of School Nurses
National Black Nurses Association
National Council of State Boards of Nursing
National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers
National League for Nursing
National Nurse-Led Care Consortium
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs
Oncology Nursing Society
Organization for Associate Degree Nursing
Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
Society of Pediatric Nurses
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society

CC:

The Honorable Richard Shelby
The Honorable Lamar Alexander
The Honorable Lindsey Graham
The Honorable Jerry Moran
The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
The Honorable James Lankford
The Honorable John Kennedy
The Honorable Marco Rubio
The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith
The Honorable Richard Durbin
The Honorable Jack Reed
The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen

The Honorable Jeff Merkley
The Honorable Brian Schatz
The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
The Honorable Chris Murphy
The Honorable Joe Manchin