



September 16, 2015

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

Dear Chairmen Cole and Blunt and Ranking Members DeLauro and Murray:

On behalf of the 42 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community coalition, we respectfully urge you to support the House recommended level of **\$231.622 million for the Nursing Workforce Development programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.])** and the Senate recommended level of **\$147.508 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR, National Institutes of Health)** as the appropriations process continues for FY 2016. Collectively, the Nursing Community represents over one million registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, nurse faculty, researchers, and students, and 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.

In the current fiscal climate, we understand and recognize the challenges facing the appropriations process as a result of a lower subcommittee allocation. However, we urge legislators to work collaboratively and take measures that will increase the subcommittee allocation. This will create the potential to maximize funding for the Title VIII programs and NINR. These investments are key to sustaining a nursing workforce grounded in science.

The Title VIII programs address all aspects of the nursing workforce demand, including education, practice, recruitment, retention, and most importantly, increasing access to care in areas that need it the most. Equally critical to building a robust nursing workforce is investing in the science that drives evidence-based nursing practice. Research projects funded through NINR are aimed at reducing burdensome chronic illness, improving quality of life, and promoting patient-centered care.

Again, while we understand that you are working under a challenging fiscal environment, we impress upon you the importance of supporting the health of our nation by providing the House level of \$231.622 million for the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs and the Senate level of \$147.508 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research in the final appropriations process. If our organizations can be of any assistance, or if you have any questions, please contact Convener of the Nursing Community, Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, at [Smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu](mailto:Smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu) or 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 Heart Failure Nurses  
American Association of Neuroscience Nurses  
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists  
American Association of Nurse Practitioners  
American Association of Occupational Health Nurses  
American College of Nurse-Midwives  
American Nephrology Nurses' Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Organization of Nurse Executives  
American Psychiatric Nurses Association  
American Society for Pain Management Nursing  
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses  
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators  
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care  
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses  
Association of Public Health Nurses  
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses  
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  
Infusion Nurses Society  
International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses  
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists  
National Association of Hispanic Nurses  
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 Council of State Boards of Nursing  
National League for Nursing

National Nursing Centers Consortium  
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs  
Oncology Nurses Society  
Organization for Associate Degree Nursing  
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association  
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates