



January 3, 2018

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Chairman  
Appropriations Committee  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Vice Chairman  
Appropriations Committee  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen  
Chairman  
Appropriations Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey  
Ranking Member  
Appropriations Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen Cochran and Frelinghuysen, and Vice Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Lowey:

On behalf of the 52 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community Coalition, we strongly urge Congress to **fund each of the Nursing Workforce Development programs, authorized under Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.), with at least the levels proposed by the Senate's Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (LHHS) Appropriations Subcommittee bill totaling \$234.472 million in FY 2018.** We are deeply concerned with previous efforts to consolidate certain Title VIII programs and cut critical investments in them. Consolidation would dilute the distinct mission of each program and jeopardize the lifelines that Title VIII provides communities across the country. We request that you fund all of Title VIII programs, 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)
- NURSE Corps Loan Repayment and Scholarship Programs (Sec. 846)
- Nurse Faculty Loan Program (Sec. 846A)
- Comprehensive Geriatric Education (Sec. 855)

Additionally, please **provide at least \$155.210 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), within the National Institutes of Health, as proposed by the Senate's LHHS Appropriations Subcommittee bill for FY 2018.** For 30 years, scientific endeavors through 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.

The Nursing Community Coalition is the largest coalition representing nursing constituencies in America and represents the cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the profession. We believe that the healthcare delivery system should be one that promotes wellness, advances

research through scientific discovery, and provides timely access to care. As a result, we know first-hand the critical assistance that Title VIII and NINR funding affords.

The Nursing Community Coalition recognizes the challenging fiscal climate and the difficult decisions that must be made by your Committee. **However, we urge you to help ensure America's health is a top priority by advancing funding for all of the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs and for the National Institute of Nursing Research.** If the Nursing Community can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, Executive Director, at 202-463-6930 ext. 247 or [smiyamoto@aacnnursing.org](mailto:smiyamoto@aacnnursing.org).

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 Association of Occupational Health Nurses  
American College of Nurse-Midwives  
American Nephrology Nurses' Association  
American Nurses 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 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  
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association  
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association  
Infusion Nurses Society  
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  
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society