April 12, 2018

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

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)

Promoting America’s Health Through Nursing Care

www.thenursingcommunity.org - 202-463-6930 ext. 272
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 Mike Simpson  
The Honorable Steve Womack  
The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann  
The Honorable Andy Harris  
The Honorable Martha Roby  
The Honorable Jaime Herrera Beutler  
The Honorable John Moolenaar  
The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard  
The Honorable Barbara Lee  
The Honorable Mark Pocan  
The Honorable Katherine Clark