



October 26, 2016

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20510

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

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

Dear Chairmen Cochran and Blunt and Ranking Members Mikulski and Murray:

On behalf of the 56 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community coalition, we respectfully urge you to support our original FY 2017 requests of **\$244 million for the Nursing Workforce Development programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act) and \$157 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR, National Institutes of Health (NIH))** in your Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill.

The Nursing Community, representing over one million registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, nurse faculty, researchers, and students, is committed to promoting efforts that advance the health of our nation through nursing care. As the demand for high-quality care intensifies, it is critical that investments are made in the nation's largest healthcare workforce, registered nurses.

For over 50 years, the Title VIII programs have been able to meet the growing demand for nursing services at the community, state, and national levels due to strong, sustained funding. Administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration, these programs directly contribute to the health and wellness of American by providing care to underserved populations, increasing access to primary care, and promoting diversity to better serve all communities. For example, the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Diversity Grants supported 13,225 students in academic year 2014-2015, and partnered with over 900 clinical training sites, of which 42% were located in underserved areas. Additionally, last year the Title VIII Advanced Education Nursing Traineeships programs trained 3,008 nursing students, of which 72% were in primary care settings. The present and looming demand for high quality healthcare proves it is imperative to support the future pipeline of highly-educated nurses.

Evidence-based nursing research currently being produced at the NINR is the foundation for the care nurses provide. Nursing science is focused on reducing rates of costly, chronic diseases, promoting patient and family-centered wellness, and improving palliative and end-of-life care. NINR funds also bolster training programs that develop nurse scientists who often serve as faculty members. Our request of \$157 million for NINR aligns with the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research's FY 2017 request for the total NIH budget of at least \$34 billion.

As you continue to develop a spending solution for FY 2017, the Nursing Community urges you to help ensure the health of Americans is a top priority by supporting the **Nursing Workforce Development programs at \$244 million and the National Institute of Nursing Research at \$157 million**. If our organizations can be of any assistance, or if you have any questions, please contact the Convener of the Nursing Community, 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 Assembly for Men in 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 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  
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 Black Nurses Association  
National Council of State Boards of Nursing  
National Gerontological Nursing Association

National League for Nursing  
National Nursing-Led Centers 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  
Public Health Nursing Section, American Public Health Association  
Society of Pediatric Nurses  
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates  
The Quad Council of Public Health Nursing Organizations  
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society