

Strengthen the Nursing Workforce—Support Title VIII

Support Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs in FY20

**** THIS IS A PROGRAMMATIC REQUEST, *Instructions will be provided.* ****

Complete [THIS FORM](#) to Add Your Boss

DEADLINE: Thursday, March 21, 2019

Dear Colleague:

Please join us in signing the attached letter urging the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (LHHS-ED) Appropriations Subcommittee to support the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Nursing Workforce Development programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act) in Fiscal Year 2020. An investment in the nursing workforce of today is an investment in access to health care tomorrow.

Nurses are integral members of all healthcare teams and are valued for their ability to collaborate with other professionals to meet the needs of patients and to improve the quality of America’s healthcare system. Registered Nurses comprise the largest group of health professionals with more than 4 million licensed providers and students. They offer essential care to patients and their families in diverse delivery settings, including hospitals, long-term care facilities, community centers, schools, workplaces, and patient homes.

For more than five decades, the Title VIII programs have helped build the supply and distribution of qualified nurses needed in all healthcare settings. The Title VIII programs bolster nursing education at all levels, from entry-level preparation through graduate study, and provide support for institutions that educate nurses for practice in rural and medically underserved communities.

Please [complete this form](#) to sign on to the letter. If you have any questions, please contact Jack Arriaga in Rep. Bonamici’s office (Jack.Arriaga@mail.house.gov).

Sincerely,

Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress

Rodney Davis
Member of Congress

Tulsi Gabbard
Member of Congress

March XX, 2019

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

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

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

We respectfully request that you invest in the nation's health by providing \$266 million for the Nursing Workforce Development Programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act, administered by HRSA) in the Fiscal Year 2020 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies appropriations bill.

With more than four million providers, Registered Nurses (RNs), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), and other nurses with graduate degrees comprise the largest sector of the healthcare workforce and are essential members of the health professions team. The RN and APRN pipelines rely on Title VIII program support to advance all aspects of the nursing workforce demand, including education, practice, recruitment, and retention. Title VIII programs bolster education at all levels, from entry-level preparation through graduate study. These programs support academic institutions and the nurse faculty who prepare today's nursing students to be tomorrow's expert clinicians.

It is critical that communities across the country have access to evidence-based, high-quality, and timely care. Title VIII programs advance this endeavor by fostering training and employment opportunities to serve those most in need. For example, in Academic Year 2016-2017, the Title VIII Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship program supported 2,166 students, of which 80 percent received training in primary care settings. The Title VIII Nurse Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention program supported 6,430 individuals for team-based care practices. Seventy-one percent of sites where these individuals received clinical training were located in medically-underserved areas. Additionally, 4,416 students were trained through the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Diversity program, 100 percent of whom were from underrepresented groups and/or from disadvantaged backgrounds. In addition, these grantees partnered with 571 training sites to provide 7,800 clinical training experiences.

We sincerely appreciate your past support and continued consideration of our request as your Subcommittee faces a challenging fiscal climate. A strong investment in the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs in FY 2020 is a strong investment in the nursing workforce, patient well-being, and the sustainability of our nation's healthcare system.

Sincerely,