May 1, 2024

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chair
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Aderholt and Ranking Member DeLauro:

We respectfully request that you invest in the nation’s health, and support our nurses, nursing students, and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), by providing $530 million for the Nursing Workforce Development Programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act, administered by HRSA) in the Fiscal Year 2025 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies appropriations bill.

With more than four and a half million Registered Nurses (RNs), APRNs, and other nurses, including those with graduate degrees nationwide, the nursing profession makes up the largest sector of the health care workforce and are essential members of the health professions team. We have witnessed how vital our nation’s nurses are to the health of all communities, particularly in rural and underserved areas. 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. Further, these programs support academic institutions and the nurse faculty who prepare today’s nursing students to be tomorrow’s frontline providers.

It is critical that communities across the country have access to equitable, 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 2022-2023, the Title VIII Advanced Nursing Education programs supported more than 8,000 advanced practice nurses, many of whom were trained in primary care settings or medically underserved communities. The Nursing Workforce Diversity program’s success provides another great example of the Title VIII program’s value. This program has increased opportunities for individuals who are from underrepresented groups and from disadvantaged backgrounds, with more than 2,000 students supported in Academic Year 2022-2023.

These are just a few examples of how strong support and increased funding for our Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs directly contribute to the health care of our nation, especially in rural and underserved areas that need it most. We recognize that bold investment in the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs translates into a strong investment in the nursing workforce, patient well-being, and the long-term sustainability of our nation’s health care system. It is imperative that we support our current and future nursing workforce who continue to be on the frontlines and must be prepared for the health challenges of tomorrow.

We greatly appreciate your past support and continued commitment to these programs as you consider our request.

Sincerely,
Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress

Angie Craig
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

Brad Sherman
Member of Congress

Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress

Doris Matsui
Member of Congress

Colin Z. Allred
Member of Congress

Dina Titus
Member of Congress

Diana DeGette
Member of Congress
Steve Cohen
Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis
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Jason Crow
Member of Congress

John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress

Bill Foster
Member of Congress

Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress

Donald S. Beyer Jr.
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Raúl M. Grijalva
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Jim Costa
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Julia Brownley
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Chris Pappas  
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Katie Porter  
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Jimmy Panetta  
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Mike Levin  
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Seth Moulton  
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Mark Takano  
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Brian Fitzpatrick  
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Marie Gluesenkamp Perez  
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Melanie Stansbury  
Member of Congress

Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress
Nikema Williams
Member of Congress

Robin L. Kelly
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Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

Joe Neguse
Member of Congress

Maxine Waters
Member of Congress

Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

William R. Keating
Member of Congress

Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress