



January 22, 2026

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Thune  
Senate Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
House Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Thune, Leader Jeffries, and Leader Schumer:

On behalf of 64 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC), we want to extend our appreciation to the members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees for including nursing education, workforce, and research funding in the “Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026.” The NCC urges Members of Congress to vote to pass this bill before the January 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. A stable, full-year appropriations of **\$305.472 million for the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.]) and \$197.693 million for National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)** is critically important to support our current and future nurses who are so vital to the health of our nation.

The NCC is a cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the nursing profession. Together, the NCC represents Registered Nurses (RNs), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs),<sup>1</sup> nurse leaders, boards of nursing, students, faculty, and researchers. As the largest segment of the healthcare profession,<sup>2</sup> nursing is involved at every point of care. We are grateful for the House and Senate Appropriations Committees’ recognition that supporting healthcare in all communities, including in our rural and underserved areas, requires continued investment in nursing.

As the largest dedicated federal funding source for nurses, Title VIII programs bolster and sustain the nation’s nursing pathways by addressing all aspects of nursing workforce demand. From scholarship and loan repayments, to supporting APRNs and future faculty, Title VIII

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<sup>1</sup> APRNs include certified nurse-midwives (CNMs), certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs), clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) and nurse practitioners (NPs).

<sup>2</sup> Smith, Sean and Blank, Andrew. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (June 2023) Healthcare Occupations: Characteristics of the Employed. Slide Two: Employment in the 25 largest healthcare occupations, 2022. Retrieved from: <https://www.bls.gov/spotlight/2023/healthcare-occupations-in-2022/>

programs offer a strategic and cost-effective approach to supporting the nursing workforce and patients across the country.

We have also seen the importance of science in the discussion of cures, patient safety, and preparedness. As an Institute or Center at NIH that directly supports research by nurse scientists, NINR promotes patient-centered care across the life continuum. Since nursing research was established as an independent entity within NIH, NINR has continued developing and testing community-based models, particularly in rural and underserved areas.

As Congress works to pass the bipartisan, bicameral, conference bill, we urge you to vote yes. **Your vote will help invest in our nation's nurses by providing \$305.472 million for the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs and \$197.693 million for NINR.** If our organizations can be of any assistance, or if you have any questions, please contact the Nursing Community Coalition's Executive Director, Rachel Minahan at [rstevenson@thenursingcommunity.org](mailto:rstevenson@thenursingcommunity.org).

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses  
Academy of Neonatal Nursing  
Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments  
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing  
American Academy of Emergency Nurse Practitioners  
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 Anesthesiology  
American Association of Nurse Practitioners  
American Association of Occupational Health Nurses  
American Association of Post-Acute Care Nursing  
American College of Nurse-Midwives  
American Nephrology Nurses Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Nursing Informatics Association  
American Organization for Nursing Leadership  
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association, Inc.  
American Psychiatric Nurses Association  
American Public Health Association, Public Health Nursing Section  
American Society for Pain Management Nursing  
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses  
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  
DNPs of Color  
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 Hispanic Nurses  
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 Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence  
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  
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates  
Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurses Society

CC:

All members of the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate  
Chair Susan Collins, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Vice Chair Patty Murray, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Chair Shelley Moore Capito, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
Ranking Member Tammy Baldwin, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
Chairman Tom Cole, House Appropriations Committee  
Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro, House Appropriations Committee  
Chair Robert Aderholt, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
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