



June 3, 2026

The Honorable Bill Cassidy, M.D.  
Chair  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor,  
and Pensions  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bernard Sanders  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor,  
and Pensions  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cassidy and Ranking Member Sanders:

On behalf of the Alliance to Strengthen America's Health Workforce for the Underserved (the Alliance) and other organizations, we write to respectfully request that the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) expeditiously consider and advance the bipartisan reauthorizations of the Public Health Service Act Title VII Health Professions and Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs.

Specifically, we urge you to advance the bipartisan S. 1874, the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2025 and S. 4110, the EMPOWER for Health Act.

The Alliance is a national coalition of health care stakeholders committed to advancing practical, evidence-based policies that address health workforce challenges in rural and underserved communities. The Alliance is uniquely focused on strengthening the clinician workforce in the communities with the greatest needs.

The Title VII Health Professions and Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs are foundational components of a healthcare strategy that improves access to care by supporting education pathways, professional development, and workforce needs. These programs help prepare physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, physician assistants, primary care and pediatric clinicians, dentists, geriatrics professionals, mental and behavioral health providers, public health practitioners, and other members of today's team-based care models—many of whom go on to practice in rural and other medically underserved communities.

Reauthorization of Title VII Health Professions and Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs aligns with the Alliance's core policy goals, including:

- **Expanding the healthcare workforce in underserved communities** by supporting federal programs that place skilled clinicians in high-need rural, urban, suburban, and frontier areas.
- **Strengthening recruitment and retention**, including through complementary efforts that expand loan repayment, scholarship, faculty, and other educational and training opportunities in high-need areas.
- **Elevating accountability and transparency** so federal workforce investments are measured against outcomes and aligned with community needs.

At a time when communities across the nation face persistent workforce shortages and growing strain on the health care system, Congress can provide stability and continuity for education and training by reauthorizing these proven programs and advancing the bipartisan and bicameral S. 1874, the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2025 and also S. 4110, the EMPOWER for Health Act. Doing so is a responsible, forward-looking step to help ensure patients have access to timely, high-quality care, particularly in communities that too often face barriers.

Thank you for your consideration. The Alliance stands ready to serve as a resource to the Committee as you consider reauthorization of Title VII Health Professions and Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs.

Sincerely,

AAMC (Association of American Medical Colleges)  
 Advocates for Community Health  
 Alameda Health Consortium  
 Alaska Primary Care Association  
 American Academy of Family Physicians  
 American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research  
 American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
 American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine  
 American Association of Nurse Practitioners  
 American Association of Teaching Health Centers (AATHC)  
 American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges  
 American College of Physicians  
 American College of Preventive Medicine  
 American Dental Education Association  
 American Psychiatric Association  
 America's Essential Hospitals  
 Anove  
 Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers  
 Association of American Indian Physicians  
 Association of Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU)  
 Association of Minority Health Professions Schools

Association of Rehabilitation Nurses  
Bi-State Primary Care Association  
California Primary Care Association  
Career Education Colleges and Universities  
Colorado Community Health Network  
Community Health Center Association of Mississippi  
Community Health Center, Inc.  
Council on Social Work Education  
District of Columbia Primary Care Association  
Emergency Nurses Association  
Florida Association of Community Health Centers  
GA State Primary Care Association  
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association  
Health Outreach Partners  
Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association  
Indiana Primary Health Care Association  
Iowa Primary Care Association  
Maine Primary Care Association  
Michigan Primary Care Association  
Mid-Atlantic Association of Community Health Centers  
Migrant Clinicians Network  
Minnesota Association of Community Health Centers  
Moses Weitzman Health System  
National AHEC Organization  
National Association of Hispanic Nurses  
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Association of Rural Health Clinics  
National Black Nurses Association  
National Center for Farmworker Health  
National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership  
National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA)  
National Kidney Foundation  
National League for Nursing  
National Medical Association  
National Network for Oral Health Access  
National Nurse-Led Care Consortium  
National Rural Health Association  
NCEMNA (National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurses Associations)  
Nevada Primary Care Association  
Ohio Association of Community Health Centers  
Oklahoma Primary Care Association  
Oncology Nursing Society

Oregon Primary Care Association  
PA Education Association  
Pennsylvania Public Health Association  
Rhode Island Health Center Association  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Tennessee Primary Care Association  
The National Association of Rural Health Clinics  
VCHA (Virginia Community Healthcare Association)  
West Virginia Primary Care Association  
Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association