

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 27, 2022

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, 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 2023 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies appropriations bill.

With more than four million Registered Nurses (RNs), APRNs, and other nurses 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. During the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, 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 2020-2021, the Title VIII Advanced Nursing Education programs supported 8,864 students, many of whom were trained in primary care settings or medically underserved communities.

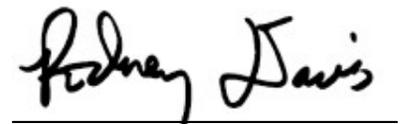
The Nursing Workforce Diversity program's success provides another great example of the Title VIII program's value. This program has increased opportunities for individuals who are from underrepresented groups and from disadvantaged backgrounds, with 10,155 students supported in Academic Year 2020-2021. Additionally, program grantees worked with 778 training sites, providing 9,920 clinical training experiences.

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. As we work to move beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, 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,


Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress


Rodney Davis
Member of Congress


Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress

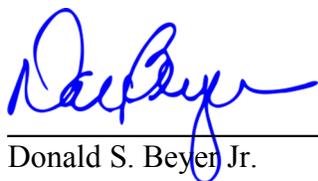

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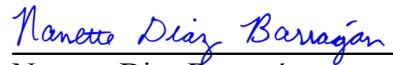
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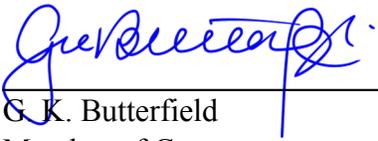


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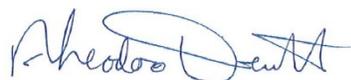
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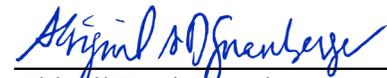
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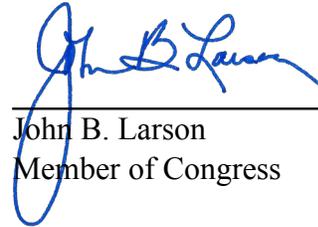
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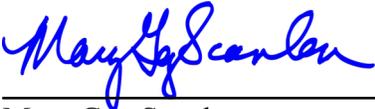
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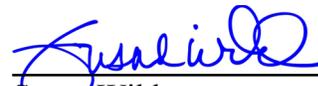
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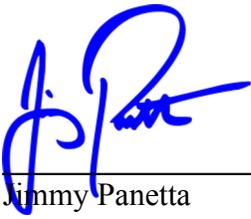
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