

September 17, 2010

The Honorable David Obey Chairman Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Tom Harkin Chairman Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education Committee on Appropriations United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

## Dear Chairman Obey and Chairman Harkin:

The Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC) thanks you for your support of the Title VII and Title VIII health professions and nursing education programs and for making these important workforce programs a priority in your respective FY 2011 Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bills. HPNEC is an alliance of more than 60 national organizations representing schools, programs, health professionals, and students dedicated to ensuring the health workforce is educated and trained to meet the needs of our diverse population.

We appreciate that the spending measures approved by the House subcommittee and Senate full committee include a substantial increase for the health professions and nursing education programs. As you know, these programs are vital components of the nation's health care safety net, and only will become more important as the country's population continues to age, more Americans seek health care services as a result of the Affordable Care Act, and health care workforce shortages continue to increase. By supporting the education and training of health professionals across disciplines, the Title VII and Title VIII programs help shape the workforce to respond to the nation's most pressing health care challenges. Your leadership has been key to ensuring a strong, sustained investment in these valuable workforce programs as they improve the supply, distribution, and diversity of health care providers.

Once again, we sincerely thank you for your efforts and continued commitment to these critical programs and look forward to working with you throughout the remainder of the FY 2011 appropriations process.

Sincerely,



Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine

American Academy of Family Physicians

American Academy of Nurse Practitioners

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Academy of Physician Assistants

American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy

American Association of Colleges of Nursing

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy

American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine

American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians

American College of Physicians

American College of Preventive Medicine

American Medical Student Association

American Nephrology Nurses Association

American Nurses Association

American Occupational Therapy Association

American Osteopathic Association

American Podiatric Medical Association

American Psychological Association

American Public Health Association

American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science

Association for Prevention Teaching and Research

Association of Academic Health Centers

Association of American Medical Colleges

Association of Chiropractic Colleges

Association of Departments of Family Medicine

Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors

Association of Minority Health Professions Schools

Association of Professors of Medicine

Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine

Association of Rehabilitation Nurses

Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal

Nurses

Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine



Coalition of Urban Serving Universities Community Campus Partnerships for Health Council on Social Work Education **Health Professions Network** Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools **HIV Medicine Association** National Association for Geriatric Education National Association of Geriatric Education Centers National Athletic Trainers Association National Council on Diversity in the Health Professions National League for Nursing National Network of Health Career Programs in Two Year Colleges National Rural Health Association North American Primary Care Research Group **Oncology Nursing Society** Physician Assistant Education Association Society for Teachers in Family Medicine Society of General Internal Medicine