



April 3, 2007

The Honorable Tom Harkin
Chairman, Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, and Education
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Arlen Specter
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, and Education
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Harkin and Ranking Member Specter:

On behalf of the Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC), thank you for your leadership in support of increased funding for public health programs and agencies. HPNEC is an alliance of more than 60 national organizations representing schools, programs, health professionals, and students dedicated to ensuring the health care workforce is trained to meet the needs of our diverse population.

HPNEC sincerely appreciates your amendment to the Senate Budget Resolution (S. Con. Res. 21) to increase health programs within the Function 550 discretionary account by \$2.2 billion. We are especially grateful for your recognition of the Title VII health professions programs in the amendment, as restoring funds for these essential training programs is crucial to preserving the health and well-being of the American people.

HPNEC members look forward to working with you to ensure the best possible allocation for the FY 2008 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill. Thank you again for leading this effort.

Sincerely,

Erica Froyd
Director