December 6, 2010

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The undersigned organizations of the Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC) write to thank you for your longstanding support of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)’s Title VII and Title VIII health professions and nursing education programs. HPNEC is an alliance of national organizations representing schools, programs, health professionals, and students dedicated to ensuring that the health workforce is educated and trained to meet the ever-growing needs of our diverse population. As you finalize your FY 2012 budget request, we respectfully urge you to continue to prioritize a strong health care workforce that reflects the nation’s urgent workforce needs.

HPNEC is thankful for the commitment shown to these programs by your administration through both the Prevention and Public Health Fund and through your amendments to the FY 2011 budget requesting additional funds for the health professions education and training programs. These actions represent an important step towards placing the Title VII and Title VIII programs on a funding trajectory that will ensure the nation’s health care workforce can meet both the growing demand for health professionals and the health care needs of the country’s most vulnerable populations.

As you know, the Title VII and Title VIII training programs are an essential component of the nation’s health care safety net, improving the supply, distribution, and diversity of health professionals across the country. With existing and looming provider shortages across all health disciplines, increased and stable funding for the Title VII and Title VIII programs is essential.

Once again, thank you for your administration’s renewed emphasis on and continued commitment to the health professions programs. We are grateful for your efforts to sustain the Title VII and Title VIII programs, as they are critical to ensuring that the country’s neediest communities are served by a well-trained and diverse health care workforce.

Sincerely,
Academic Pediatric Association
American Academy of Family Physicians
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 Association of Nurse Anesthetists
American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Dental Education Association
American Geriatrics Society
American Medical Student Association
American Nurses Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Pediatric Society
American Podiatric Medical Association
American Psychological Association
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
American Society for Clinical Pathology
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Association of Departments of Family Medicine
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools
Association of Pediatric Medical School Department Chairs
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Council on Social Work Education
HIV Medicine Association
International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium
National AHEC Organization
National Association for Geriatric Education
National Association of Geriatric Education Centers
National Association of Minority Medical Educations, Inc.
National Athletic Trainers’ Association
National League for Nursing
National Network of Health Career Programs in Two-Year Colleges
North American Primary Care Research Group
Oncology Nursing Society
Physician Assistant Education Association
Society for Pediatric Research
Society of General Internal Medicine
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine