

August 19, 2025

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Chair
Committee on Energy & Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy & Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bernie Sanders
Ranking Member
Committee on Health, Education, Labor and
Pensions
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Guthrie, Chair Cassidy, Ranking Member Pallone and Ranking Member Sanders:

On behalf of the 67 undersigned organizations, we are writing to strongly urge swift consideration and advancement of legislation that would reauthorize the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Title VII health professions and Title VIII nursing workforce development programs, which are set to expire at the end of fiscal year 2025 (September 30, 2025).

Together, our national organizations represent schools, students, health professionals, and communities focused on ensuring that the health workforce is prepared to meet the varied needs of our entire population and deliver excellent patient care. At the same time, we support programs that successfully recruit, educate, and train many different health professionals – including physicians, physician assistants, nurses, primary care providers, pediatric providers, dentists, geriatrics professionals, mental and behavioral health providers, public health practitioners, social workers, and other frontline health care workers. HRSA's Title VII and VIII programs do just that and are all essential in educating current and future providers to work across the country, advancing new delivery systems, and enhancing interprofessional and integrated models of care. These programs produce real, measurable results and positive community impact. Studies show that Title VII and Title VIII programs increase the number of students from all backgrounds who are enrolled in health professions schools; heightens awareness of the factors contributing to differential health outcomes; and attract health professionals more likely to serve in underserved areas.¹

Let's keep the American healthcare system strong. To do that, it is imperative for Congress to swiftly consider and advance legislative proposals, such as the Educating Medical Professionals and Optimizing Workforce Efficiency and Readiness (EMPOWER) for Health Act (H.R. 4262)

¹ Stewart KA, Brown SL, Wrensford G, Hurley MM. Creating a comprehensive approach to exposing underrepresented pre-health professions students to clinical medicine and health research. J Natl Med Assoc. 2020;112(1):36-43. doi:10.1016/j.jnma.2019.12.003

and the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act (H.R. 3593/S. 1874), which would reauthorize the Title VII and VIII programs from FY 2026 through FY 2030. Reauthorization of the HRSA Title VII and VIII programs would allow our nation to continue to support a high-quality, well-educated and representative health workforce, which ultimately improves patients' access to care and optimizes the health of America.

Congress must ensure the Title VII and Title VIII programs are able to continue to carry out critical work towards addressing health workforce shortages and preparing for the health care demands of the future. There is no substitute to the value that these programs bring to the healthcare workforce. To that end, our organizations strongly urge lawmakers to reaffirm the federal government's commitment to building the next generation of health care professionals, by providing swift consideration and advancement of the HRSA Title VII health professions and Title VIII nursing workforce development programs reauthorizations.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Physician Associates
American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research
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 Practitioners
American Association of Psychiatric Pharmacists
American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Osteopathic Internists
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Dental Association
American Dental Education Association
American Geriatrics Society
American Nurses Association
American Pediatric Society
American Physical Therapy Association
American Podiatric Medical Association
American Psychological Association Services, Inc.
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science

Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of Chiropractic Colleges
Association of Departments of Family Medicine
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of Schools Advancing Health Professions
Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry
Children's Hospital Association
Council on Social Work Education
Eldercare Workforce Alliance
Heart Failure Society of America
Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association
NAPCRG
National AHEC Organization
National Association for Geriatric Education
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
National Association of Community Health Centers
National Association of Geriatric Education Centers
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Council for Diversity in Health Professions
National Hispanic Health Foundation
National Hispanic Medical Association
National League for Nursing
National Medical Fellowships
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
National Rural Health Association
Oncology Nursing Society
PA Education Association
Pediatric Policy Council
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Public Health Education
Society of General Internal Medicine
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine
South Asian Public Health Association
Student National Medical Association