



April 22, 2024

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
United States Senate  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert Aderholt  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
United States House of Representatives  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
United States Senate  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
United States House of Representatives  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Baldwin, Chair Aderholt, Ranking Member Capito, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

On behalf of the 57 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC), we respectfully request your support of **at least \$530 million for Nursing Workforce Development Programs** (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.]) and **at least \$210 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR, National Institutes of Health) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025**. As Congress continues to consider policies to ensure that patients throughout the nation have access to health care, it is imperative that workforce funding reflects the heightened needs of our communities. We appreciate Congress' commitment to nursing education, workforce, and research and urge you to make much needed increases to the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs and NINR in FY 2025.

The Nursing Community Coalition is a cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the nursing profession. Together, the NCC represents Registered Nurses (RNs), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs),<sup>1</sup> nurse leaders, students, faculty, and researchers. As the largest segment of the health care profession,<sup>2</sup> nursing is involved at every point of care.

We all have witnessed the immense impact public health challenges have on our nursing students and workforce. In fact, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projected that by 2032 demand for RNs would

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<sup>1</sup> APRNs include certified nurse-midwives (CNMs), certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs), clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) and nurse practitioners (NPs).

<sup>2</sup> United States Census Bureau. (2021) Who are our Health Care Workers? Retrieved from:  
<https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2021/04/who-are-our-health-care-workers.html>

increase 6%, illustrating an employment change of 177,400 nurses.<sup>3</sup> Further, the demand for most APRNs is expected to grow by 38%.<sup>4</sup> The need for nurses and APRNs is not only outlined by BLS, but can be seen in communities across the nation, including rural and underserved areas. In fact, a recent American Nurses Foundation study found that 19% of nurses said they intend to leave their position in the next six months, and 27% are considering leaving.<sup>5</sup> The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) unveiled their research, “Examining the impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Burnout & Stress Among U.S. Nurses,” which found that approximately 100,000 RNs left the workforce during the pandemic and another 610,388 RNs report an “intent to leave” by 2027 due to stress, burnout, and retirement.<sup>6</sup> Given these realities, many look toward education to ensure the nursing pipeline remains strong. However, AACN’s most recent annual survey found that, “the primary barriers to accepting all qualified students at nursing schools continue to be insufficient clinical placement sites, faculty, preceptors, and classroom space, as well as budget cuts.”<sup>7</sup>

Now is not the time to go backwards. Bold investments in our Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs, are critical, not only as we address the current needs of the profession, but as we prepare for the health care needs of tomorrow. As the largest dedicated federal funding for our current and future nurses, the Title VIII programs have helped bolster and sustain the nation’s diverse nursing pipeline by addressing all aspects of nursing workforce demand. With an aging workforce, aging population, and need to support our frontline providers, funding for Title VIII must meet levels reflecting the nursing population it serves. Therefore, with more than four and a half million nurses throughout the country,<sup>8</sup> we strongly urge historic support for all the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs in FY 2025.

We have also seen the importance of science in the discussion of cures and preparedness. As one of the 27 Institutes and Centers at the National Institutes of Health, NINR’s research is aimed at reducing the impact of social determinants of health and creating a more equitable health care system by promoting patient-centered care across the life continuum. The translational research by our nation’s nurses and scientists is essential to developing new evidence-based practices to care for all patients. Through increased investments in NINR, they will be able to continue their vital work at the forefront of disease prevention, patient care, and recovery.

As you work to develop FY 2025 spending levels, and as we support America’s health, we urge you to **invest in our nation’s nurses by providing at least \$530 million for Nursing Workforce Development Programs and at least \$210 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research in FY 2025.** We appreciate the Committee’s commitment to nursing education, workforce, and research and respectfully ask that you continue to safeguard the public’s well-being by putting forward bold investments to support our current and future nurses. If our organizations can be of any assistance, or if you have any questions, please contact the Nursing Community Coalition’s Executive Director, Rachel Stevenson, at [rstevenson@thenursingcommunity.org](mailto:rstevenson@thenursingcommunity.org).

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<sup>3</sup> U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2023). Occupational Outlook Handbook- Registered Nurses. Retrieved from: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/registered-nurses.htm>

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2023). Occupational Outlook Handbook- Nurse Anesthetists, Nurse Midwives, and Nurse Practitioners. Retrieved from: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/nurse-anesthetists-nurse-midwives-and-nurse-practitioners.htm>

<sup>5</sup> American Nurses Foundation. (2023). Three-Year Annual Assessment Survey: Nurses Needed Increased Support from their Employer. Retrieved from: [https://www.nursingworld.org/~48fb88/contentassets/23d4f79cea6b4f67ae24714de11783e9/anf-impact-assessment-third-year\\_v5.pdf](https://www.nursingworld.org/~48fb88/contentassets/23d4f79cea6b4f67ae24714de11783e9/anf-impact-assessment-third-year_v5.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> National Council of State Boards of Nursing (2023) Examining the impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Burnout & Stress Among U.S. Nurses. Retrieved from: [https://www.journalofnursingregulation.com/article/S2155-8256\(23\)00063-7/fulltext](https://www.journalofnursingregulation.com/article/S2155-8256(23)00063-7/fulltext)

<sup>7</sup> American Association of Colleges of Nursing. (2024) New AACN Data Points to Enrollment Challenges Facing U.S. Schools of Nursing. Retrieved from: <https://www.aacnursing.org/news-data/all-news/article/new-aacn-data-points-to-enrollment-challenges-facing-us-schools-of-nursing>

<sup>8</sup> National Council of State Boards of Nursing. (2024). Active RN Licenses: A profile of nursing licensure in the U.S. as of February 11, 2023. Retrieved from: <https://www.ncsbn.org/6161.htm>

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses  
Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments  
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing  
American Academy of Emergency Nurse Practitioners  
American Academy of Nursing  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Critical-Care Nurses  
American Association of Heart Failure Nurses  
American Association of Neuroscience Nurses  
American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology  
American Association of Nurse Practitioners  
American Association of Post-Acute Care Nursing  
American College of Nurse-Midwives  
American Nephrology Nurses Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Nursing Informatics Association  
American Organization for Nursing Leadership  
American Psychiatric Nurses Association  
American Public Health Association, Public Health Nursing Section  
American Society for Pain Management Nursing  
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses  
Association for Radiologic and Imaging Nursing  
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators  
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care  
Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses  
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses  
Association of Public Health Nurses  
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service  
Dermatology Nurses' Association  
Emergency Nurses Association  
Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research  
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association  
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association  
International Association of Forensic Nurses  
International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses  
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists  
National Association of Hispanic Nurses  
National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners  
National Association of Neonatal Nurses  
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Association of School Nurses  
National Council of State Boards of Nursing  
National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers  
National Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence  
National League for Nursing  
National Nurse-Led Care Consortium  
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties  
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs  
Oncology Nursing Society  
Organization for Associate Degree Nursing

Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association  
Society of Pediatric Nurses  
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates  
Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurses Society

CC:

Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Patty Murray  
Senate Appropriations Committee Vice Chair Susan Collins  
House Appropriations Committee Chairman Tom Cole  
House Appropriations Committee Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro  
Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell  
Speaker of the House Mike Johnson  
House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries  
Senator Richard Durbin  
Senator Jack Reed  
Senator Jeanne Shaheen  
Senator Jeff Merkley  
Senator Brian Schatz  
Senator Chris Murphy  
Senator Joe Manchin  
Senator Lindsey Graham  
Senator Jerry Moran  
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