Nursing Community’s Congressional Requests to Promote the Health of Americans and Increase Access to Care

Request: $244 million for the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs in FY 2018
In order to ensure access to care across the nation, investments in the pipeline of Registered Nurses and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses must remain a top priority. While great strides have been made to meet the demand for nurses, a constant focus must be placed on education to ensure a stable workforce. This could not be truer in communities struggling to recruit and retain highly-qualified providers, including those in rural and medically-underserved regions.

For over 50 years, the Nursing Workforce Development Programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.]) have helped to meet the nation’s demand for nurses. More than ever, safeguarding dollars to promote America’s health through nursing care is critical. These dollars translate to on-the-ground care being delivered in all corners of the country. For example, in Academic Year 2014-2015, the Title VIII Advanced Nursing Education Grants supported 9,024 graduate nursing students and partnered with over 4,200 clinical training sites. Of these, 45% were located in underserved areas and 46% provided primary care.1

Request: $160 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) in FY 2018
As one of the 27 Institutes and Centers at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), NINR funds research that establishes the scientific basis for quality patient care. Nurse scientists supported by NINR are advancing discoveries in genetic research, leading team science, and promoting precision health initiatives. In addition, nurse scientists lead complex studies focused on health promotion and disease prevention. The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research is requesting at least $2 billion above the FY 2017 funding level for the National Institutes of Health, in addition to funds included in the 21st Century Cures Act. Included in this amount is $160 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research.

Request: Please Join the Nursing Caucus
The bipartisan House and Senate Nursing Caucuses educate legislators on issues impacting the profession and how nurses are transforming America’s health.

Please consider joining the House caucus by contacting Anna Alburger (Anna.Alburger@mail.house.gov) in Rep. David Joyce’s (R-OH) office or Dave Chun (Dave.Chun@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Tulsi Gabbard’s (D-HI) office.

Please consider joining the Senate caucus by contacting Sarah Stevenson (sarahlloyd_stevenson@wicker.senate.gov) in Sen. Roger Wicker’s (R-MS) office or Alexa Damis-Wulff (Alexa_Damis-Wulff@merkley.senate.gov) in Sen. Jeff Merkley’s (D-OR) office.


For more information about the Nursing Community requests, contact Convener of the Nursing Community, Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, at smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu.