



U.S. House of Representatives Pass Appropriation Minibus: Includes Historic Increases for Nursing Programs and Research

July 29, 2021 – On behalf of the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC), we commend the U.S. House of Representatives for passing H.R.4502, the seven-bill appropriations package. This minibus provides unprecedented increases to key programs impacting nursing education, practice, and research including:

- **\$314.472 million for Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs:** This includes a \$50 million, or nearly 19% increase, over FY 2021 enacted levels; and
- **\$200.782 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR):** This includes a nearly \$26 million, or 14.7% increase, over FY 2021.

These investments are part of \$119.8 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services, including \$49 billion for the National Institutes of Health. In addition to these vital programs, the NCC was proud to see the inclusion of other funding priorities and report language that addresses mental health, the ongoing opioid epidemic, and nursing shortages. This legislation also prioritizes health equity and recognizes the impact COVID-19 has had on health care practitioners, including the rural nursing workforce.

The passage of H.R. 4502 is an essential step as we continue to support our current and future nurses, and the patients and communities they serve. Further, the NCC sincerely thanks House leadership and the House Appropriations Full Committee and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee Chairwoman, Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) for her longstanding dedication to the nursing profession. Further, we appreciate the leadership of the House Appropriations Committee members, including House Nursing Caucus Co-Chairs, Reps. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA) and David Joyce (R-OH), and one of the Registered Nurses in Congress, Rep. Lauren Underwood (D-IL), for their unwavering commitment to bolster these programs and the health of our nation. We also extend our gratitude to House Nursing Caucus Vice Co-Chairs, Reps. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) and Rodney Davis (R-IL) for leading the bipartisan Dear Colleague letter that overwhelmingly supported bold increases to Title VIII in FY 2022.

The NCC remains committed to working with the U.S. Senate to pass a FY 2022 budget and fund these essential programs.

The Nursing Community Coalition includes 64 national nursing organizations that are the cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the profession. Collectively, the coalition represents registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, nurse faculty, nurse leaders, researchers, and

students, who are all vital in addressing the public health challenges facing our communities. The coalition is committed to promoting efforts that advance the health of our nation through nursing care.