



March 19, 2012

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The 40 undersigned members of the Nursing Community, a forum comprised of national professional nursing membership associations that builds consensus and advocates on a wide spectrum of healthcare and nursing issues, would like to express our appreciation for recommending an increase in funding for nursing education programs in your Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 Budget.

Your request for \$251.099 million for the Nursing Workforce Development Programs (Title VIII of the *Public Health Service Act*) will continue to support the education of thousands of nursing students across the country. We recognize that at a time when difficult fiscal decisions must be made, the increase reflected in your proposed funding levels for Title VIII is a testament to the vital role nurses play in our evolving healthcare system. More specifically, your recommended increase of \$20 million for the Title VIII Advanced Education Nursing grants program will directly contribute to the education and training of advanced practice registered nurses, who are often the sole healthcare providers in rural and other medically underserved communities. Additionally, the Advanced Education Nursing grants program supports the development of nurse faculty to train the next generation of nurses entering the workforce and nurses with advanced degrees who serve in every sector of the healthcare system.

As outlined in the Institute of Medicine's *Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health* report released in October 2010, nurses should achieve higher levels of education and training through an education system that promotes seamless academic progression. Your support for Title VIII programs directly aligns with this initiative. As our healthcare system anticipates an unprecedented number of individuals seeking services in the near future, Title VIII programs ensure that nursing will be able to meet the demands of the public.

The Nursing Community commends your continued support of the nursing profession and the nation's health. The development of innovative care delivery models aiming to expand access to care cannot be successfully implemented without nursing's full contribution. We look forward to working with your Administration to ensure that our nation's nurses are prepared to aid in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses	Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners	Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association
American Academy of Nursing	Infusion Nurses Society
American Association of Colleges of Nursing	International Association of Forensic Nurses
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists	International Nurses Society on Addictions
American College of Nurse Practitioners	International Society of Nurses in Genetics
American College of Nurse-Midwives	International Society of Psychiatric Nursing
American Nurses Association	National American Arab Nurses Association
American Organization of Nurse Executives	National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
American Psychiatric Nurses Association	National Association of Hispanic Nurses
American Society for Pain Management Nursing	National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses	National Nursing Centers Consortium
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators	National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care	National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses	Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses	Oncology Nursing Society
Association of State and Territorial Directors of Nursing	Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses	Public Health Nursing Section, American Public Health Association
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service	Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates
Dermatology Nurses' Association	Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society

CC: Dr. Mary Wakefield, Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration
 Dr. Julie Sochalski, Director, Division of Nursing in the Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration