

# Friends of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

c/o American Public Health Association  
800 I Street NW  
Washington DC, 20016  
202-777-2513

March 17, 2010

The Honorable Daniel Inouye  
Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
S-128, Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
S-146A, Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Labor, HHS and Education  
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jerry Lewis  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Obey  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Committee  
2358 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Todd Tiahrt  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Labor, HHS and Education  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators Inouye, Cochran and Harkin and Representatives Obey, Lewis and Tiahrt:

**The undersigned members of the Friends of HRSA coalition urge you to provide at least \$9.15 billion for HRSA in FY 2011 in the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill.**

We are appreciative of your past efforts to provide increased support for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in FY 2010. While recognizing the constraints of the current budgetary climate, our request of \$9.15 billion for HRSA in FY 2011 reflects the minimum amount necessary for the agency to adequately meet the needs of the populations it serves. The relatively level funding HRSA has received over the past several years has undermined the ability of its successful programs to grow; much more is needed for the agency to achieve its ultimate mission of ensuring access to culturally competent, quality health services; eliminating health disparities; and rebuilding the public health and health care infrastructure.

The Friends of HRSA coalition is a non-profit and non-partisan alliance of national organizations, collectively representing millions of public health and health care professionals, academicians and consumers. The coalition's principal goal is to ensure that HRSA's broad health programs receive the support necessary to reach the populations presently underserved by the nation's patchwork of health services.

Through its programs in every state and thousands of communities across the country, HRSA is a national leader in providing health services for individuals and families throughout the country and serves as a health safety net for the medically underserved including the 86.7 million Americans who were uninsured for some or all of 2007-2008 and 50 million Americans who live in neighborhoods where primary health care services are scarce.

Greater investment is necessary to sufficiently fund HRSA services and programs that continue to face increasing demands. As Congress and the Administration continue working to reform the nation's health system, we urge you to consider HRSA's role in building the foundation for health service delivery and ensuring that vulnerable populations transition smoothly into a new health system to receive quality health services, while continuing to strengthen our nation's health safety net programs. By supporting, planning for and adapting to change, we can build on the successes of the past and address new gaps that emerge as a result of health system reform.

We are grateful for your support in the past and **urge you to support a funding level of \$9.15 billion for HRSA in FY 2011.**

Sincerely,

AIDS Action  
AIDS Project Los Angeles  
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine  
American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Academy of Physician Assistants  
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 College of Preventive Medicine  
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Dental Education Association  
American Dental Hygienists' Association  
American Heart Association  
American Hospital Association  
American Medical Student Association  
American Medical Women's Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Optometric Association  
American Physical Therapy Association  
American Podiatric Medical Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
American School Health Association  
American Society for Clinical Pathology  
Association of Academic Health Centers  
Association of Departments of Family Medicine

Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors  
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools  
Association of Organ Procurement Organizations  
Association of Professors of Medicine  
Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine  
Association of Public Health Laboratories  
Association of Schools of Public Health  
Association of State and Territorial Directors of Nursing  
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials  
Association of the Clinicians for the Underserved  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science  
Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine  
Coalition for Health Services Research  
Communities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief Coalition  
Consortium of Social Science Associations  
Council on Social Work Education  
Emergency Nurses Association  
Family Voices  
HIV Medicine Association  
Meharry Medical College  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
National AHEC Organization  
National Association of Community Health Centers  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
National Association of Local Boards of Health  
National Association of People with AIDS  
National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Council on Diversity in the Health Professions  
National League for Nursing  
National Rural Health Association  
North American Primary Care Research Group  
Physician Assistant Education Association  
Planned Parenthood Federation of America  
Prevent Blindness America  
Pulmonary Hypertension Association  
Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition  
Society for Public Health Education  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine  
The AIDS Institute

Cc: Senate Appropriations Committee  
House Appropriations Committee