



National Rural Health Association

Rural America faces a looming health professions workforce crisis. Recruiting and retaining physicians in rural areas is significantly more difficult than in urban areas. This is why Title VII programs, such as area health education centers (AHECs), are essential for increasing the health care workforce in rural America.

In its FY 2012 budget request, HRSA has identified the Title VII health professions programs as a national priority, and we encourage you do to the same.

[Attached](#) please find a sample letter to send to your senators in support of AHEC funding. These letters must be received by Friday, June 10, as the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies has a Friday deadline for voiced support.

Please let your senators know how important this funding is, and ask them to voice their support to Senators Harkin and Shelby.

If you have any questions about AHECs or this letter, contact David Lee, NRHA government affairs and policy manager, at dlee@NRHArural.org.

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