

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

**Support the Future of the National Health Service Corps**  
*Ensuring Access to Care for 11 million people*  
**Deadline: September 8<sup>th</sup>**

Dear Colleague:

Please join us in signing the attached letter to Chairman Greg Walden and Ranking Member Frank Pallone encouraging the House Energy & Commerce Committee to continue support for the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) program.

The NHSC provides financial support to primary care providers who serve in designated shortage areas of the country - where it is difficult to naturally entice health care professionals to practice – such as health centers, rural health clinics, community mental health centers, Indian Health Service facilities, and prisons. Last year more than 10,000 providers participated in the NHSC, serving over 11 million people across every state and territory. The NHSC program includes four key components: the Loan Repayment Program, the Scholarship Program, the State Loan Repayment Program and the Students-to-Service program. All four place individuals in rural and urban locations.

Funding for the NHSC program (\$310 million in FY17) was extended for two years in the bipartisan Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015. However, that funding is set to expire at the end of this fiscal year, endangering the future of this cost-effective primary health care program. Since FY2012 the program's sole funding has been set by the Energy & Commerce Committee; therefore, we ask that you join us in supporting the extension of funding for the NHSC by signing the attached letter to the Energy & Commerce Committee leadership.

This program has traditionally received strong bipartisan support, and we intend to continue these efforts moving forward. For questions or to sign on, please contact Luci Arveseth with Rep. Chris Stewart at [luci.arveseth@mail.house.gov](mailto:luci.arveseth@mail.house.gov) and 5-9730 or Dennis Sills with Rep. G. K. Butterfield at [dennis.sills@mail.house.gov](mailto:dennis.sills@mail.house.gov) and 5-3101 by September 8th. Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Chris Stewart  
Member of Congress



G. K. Butterfield  
Member of Congress