

Date: Thu, 8 Dec 2005 12:22:19 -0500
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Subject: URGENT!! Immediate Advocacy Efforts Needed

**** High Priority ****

Hello, Everyone,

At this time, it appears as if we have achieved a small victory--word is that the Labor-HHS bill will go back to the Conference Committee. This gives us just a few days to make critical contacts. Everything will move quickly once the Senate returns on Monday. We cannot wait even one day. Our focus is still on the Republicans. We working in unison with HPNEC, to get support for Title VII funding and restoration of geriatrics at the Senate-recommended level of \$29.5 million.

#1 - Our immediate strategy is to target those Republicans who voted AGAINST the bill when it came out of conference on November 17th. Our first focus should be on those individuals who had also signed on the the HPNEC letter that asked for Title VII support. So, IF YOU LIVE IN Iowa, Texas, Mississippi or New Mexico, call the offices of Leach (Iowa), Paul (Texas), Pickering (Miss.), and Wilson (N. Mexico). Ask them to call other congressmen (specifically Republicans) to ask them to support restoration of funding for geriatrics at the Senate level of \$29.5 million.

#2 - Contact all the Republicans who voted against the Labor-HHS bill on November 17th. (See list below). They are under pressure from their own party to switch their vote. We need to keep them on our side. (See the list below of those who MUST be contacted). Call and ask them to contact other Republicans and to restore funding for geriatrics under Title VII.

#3 - Have your GEC partners who live in their districts or states call these Republican Representatives and urge them to "call Chairmen Regula and Lewis to let them know that the restoration of the \$29.5 million for Geriatrics Education to the Title VII funding in the conference bill is a priority."

#4 - Finally, the following Republicans have signed on to previous Title VII support letters, but not the most recent one. Our job is to try to sway them to support geriatric funding. Please have your GEC partners from those states contact them, also, and urge them to call Chairmen Regula and Lewis on behalf of Geriatrics in Title VII: Simmons, Jenkins, Gilchrist, Musgrave, Tiberi, Ros-Lehtinen, Beauprez, Sodrel, Boozman.

#5 - If you have a GEC or GEC partners in rural areas, or work with an AHEC or Quentin Burdick program (which also receive Title VII funding), try to get geriatrics specifically addressed under the rural aspect. At this time, there is very strong support among Republicans from rural areas for funding the rural programs. This is a strong group, but the National Rural Health Association does not necessarily view geriatrics as a big part of their initiatives. We must push this. Those of you in rural areas, please call your Congressmen!! I have also asked Sara Jane Gainor (WV) and Esther Forti (SC) to try to assist us with any rural efforts, since they are active in this area.

Below is a list of all Republicans who voted against the Labor-H conference report on Nov. 17. We sent you the list several weeks ago via e-mail. (The conference report #598 has the complete list of yeas and nays).

Castle (Del.)	Emerson (Mo.)
Fitzpatrick (Pa.)	Gerlach (Pa.)
Gibbons (Nev.)	Johnson (Conn.)
Kirk (Ill.)	Leach (Iowa)
Moran (Kan.)	Murphy (Pa.)
Nunes (Calif.)	Otter (Idaho)
Paul (Texas)	Pickering (Miss.)
Platts (Pa.)	Ramstad (Minn.)
Renzi (Ariz.)	Rogers (Ala.)
Simmons (Conn.)	Stearns (Fla.)
Thomas (Calif.)	Wilson (N.Mex.)

We cannot stop now!! This is the most critical juncture, so your efforts are needed now more than ever! Thank you for your help. If you have any questions. please contact me.

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