

Update on Title VII, December 14, 2005

Date: Wed, 14 Dec 2005 13:03:08 -0500
From: Elyse Perweiler <perweiea@UMDNJ.EDU>
Subject: Focus of Immediate Action on the Senate

Greetings,

As a follow-up to my e-mail of yesterday, it has been reported through HPNEC that the revised version of the FY 2006 Labor-HHS conference report adds \$52.7 million to the Title VII programs, bringing the total to \$146.7 million, \$153 million (51 percent) cut below last year. Still eliminated are the HETCs, geriatric and rural training, workforce information and analysis and health administration programs. Money was restored to the following programs:

- \$12 million added to SDS, returning it to the FY 2005 level
- \$602,000 for Faculty Loan Repayment, returning it to FY 2005 level
- \$13 million added to primary care medicine and dentistry for a 53 percent cut below last year
- \$27 million more for AHECs, returning it to last year's level

(Refer to attached file for comprehensive updated funding table)

ACTION NEEDED

As the conference report moves out of Conference Committee and comes up for vote in the House, probably today, we need to focus our immediate actions on the Senate. Chances are, with the restoration of some funding for rural areas, the concerns of at least 7 Republicans who voted no the the bill in November have been addressed. It is a strong probability that the bill will pass in the House. It will then move to the Senate. Our immediate efforts NOW need to be on our Senators. We must seek their support in voting AGAINST the conference report and push for a Continuing Resolution at the FY 2005 level. We know there would be at least 2-4% cuts in any bill that comes out, but that would at least level the playing field and not herald the demise of GECs and a number of other Title VII programs.

I have attached a copy of the revised budget recommendations and included an article at the end of this e-mail that details the conference bill.

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR SENATORS NOW AND ASK THEM TO VOTE AGAINST THE CONFERENCE BILL AND FOR A CONTINUING RESOLUTION AT THE FY 2005 LEVEL.

Thank you. Let's keep pressing the Senate.
Elyse