

Goal: Enhance FY17 funding for our nation's academic health centers, especially the U. T. Health Science Center at San Antonio to expand professional health education, patient care, and biomedical research in San Antonio and the South Texas Border Region.

**National Institutes of Health (NIH):** Enhance funding for NIH. More than 83 percent of NIH research funding is awarded to more than 3,000 research institutions across the country; at least half of this funding supports life-saving research at America's medical schools, teaching hospitals and dental schools. The foundation of scientific knowledge built through NIH-funded research drives medical innovation that improves health and quality of life. Source: [www.aamc.org](http://www.aamc.org)

**Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA):** Title VII (health professions) and Title VIII (nursing): Enhance funding for the health professions, allied health and nursing education programs which are the only federal programs designed to improve the supply, distribution, and diversity of the nation's health care workforce and assist in attracting health care services to our rural and underserved communities. Source: [www.aamc.org](http://www.aamc.org)

**Direct Graduate Medical Education (GME) and Indirect Medical Education (IME):** Enhance funding for both GME and IME. Reductions in Medicare's existing support for GME potentially worsen an already problematic national physician workforce shortage. Medicare's indirect medical education (IME) payments to teaching hospitals help cover the programs portion of the additional costs associated with teaching hospitals' clinical care environments and the patient care they provide. Source: [www.aamc.org](http://www.aamc.org)

**Physician Reimbursement Rates:** Enhance physician reimbursement rates under Medicare and Medicaid. For the foreseeable future, Medicaid will play a large role in our nation's healthcare. Payment systems must be developed to allow providers to serve this population without jeopardizing their financial stability or their ability to serve other consumers. Source: [www.ama-assn.org](http://www.ama-assn.org)

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ):** Enhance funding to AHRQ to support research, reports, practical tools to improve the quality, safety, effectiveness. The agency is committed to improving care safety and quality by developing partnerships and generating new knowledge and tools for long term improvement. Source: [www.ahrq.gov](http://www.ahrq.gov)

**Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI):** Enhance funding to PCORI, which is funded through the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Trust Fund authorized by Congress as part of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010. Income is received through two funding streams, the general fund of Treasury and a small fee assessed on Medicare, private health insurance and self-insured plans. Each year 20 percent of funding is directed by the law to Department of Health and Human Services to support dissemination and research capacity building efforts. Eighty percent of that amount is transferred to Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality for these purposes. Source [www.pcori.org](http://www.pcori.org)

**Area Health and Education Centers (AHEC):** Enhance funding as these programs are created to inspire, recruit, train and retain health professions to practice in communities where the need is the greatest, especially rural and under-served communities and also includes hospitals and community health centers. Source: [www.nationalahec.org](http://www.nationalahec.org)

**Centers for Disease Control (CDC):** Enhance funding to CDC to support collaborative efforts to create expertise, information, and tools that people/communities need to protect their health through health promotion, disease prevention, addressing injury and disability and preparedness for new health threats. It is one of the major operating components of the Department of Health and Human Services. Source: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

11-05-2015