

IV. FEDERAL ACTION FOR OTHER EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.

(A) Education in Health-Related Fields.

The Associations commend the 90th Congress for its recognition of the need for substantial programs of support for education, extension activities, and library services in health-related fields through the enactment of the Health Professions Educational Assistance Act, the Allied Health Professions Educational Assistance Act, the Regional Medical Programs Act, and significant expansions of existing legislation. Legislation providing aid for the operation of instructional programs, for library services, for scholarship support, for expansion of educational facilities, and for regional efforts for continuing education and the dissemination of the most advanced medical knowledge will make substantial contributions toward the expansion of professional education in these areas.

Because of its demonstrated effectiveness in increasing the supply of badly needed nurses and in improving the quality of nursing education, the Associations recommend the continuation of the Nurses Training Act of 1964 and urge, additionally, that scholarship assistance be made available for undergraduate students in collegiate schools of nursing and that direct operational support be authorized and made available to schools of nursing conducting collegiate programs for increasing enrollments.

We are gratified that schools of pharmacy and veterinary medicine are now eligible, under the Health Professions Educational Assistance Act, for aid in the construction of educational facilities. We urge that both authorizations and appropriations for construction assistance be increased substantially to cover adequately the needs in the newly eligible fields. Further, we note with concern that eligibility for assistance for the schools of pharmacy and veterinary science is limited to construction aid. We urge corrective legislation to end this discrimination to major health-related fields, especially as concerns eligibility for basic and special improvement grants for support of the instructional function at schools of pharmacy and veterinary science.