

power, equal attention has to be given to improving the knowledge, skills, and abilities of our present nurse manpower pool.

SPECIAL PROJECT GRANTS

We support the continuation of the special project grants to assist schools to strengthen, improve, and expand nursing education. One hundred and sixteen grants have been awarded to 95 schools with an additional 143 programs sharing in the projects with benefits reaching over 33,000 students.

H.R. 15757 would expand the present program to permit any public or nonprofit private agency, organization, or institution to apply for a grant that would contribute to the strengthening and improvement of nursing education. We urge this committee to approve this expansion of the project grant program.

INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS

The American Nurses Association endorses the principle of basic support grants to schools of nursing. It is increasingly difficult for institutions to meet the costs of education since tuition in many institutions provides only a quarter of the cost of the education.

We wish to point out that the baccalaureate programs have the higher average enrollment since four or five classes of students are using the facilities simultaneously compared to two and three classes in the associate and diploma programs, respectively. We believe, therefore, that additional support should be given to the baccalaureate programs because of the strain put on the faculty and other institutional resources to support these large enrollments. We recommend an institutional grant of \$25,000 for these baccalaureate programs.

A major priority relates to program support for graduate education. There is great need for persons prepared at the graduate level in order to teach, to administer nursing care of patients, and to give leadership generally within the field. Graduate education is more expensive than is undergraduate education and certainly far more expensive than diploma and associate degree nursing education. We hope that the Federal legislation will give cognizance to the burdens placed upon institutions of higher learning which are being asked to prepare more and more leadership personnel for the field of nursing. They must have program support if they bear this great responsibility. H.R. 15757 proposes school support in the amount of \$15,000. Grants to graduate programs should be markedly improved over that figure. Since there are fewer than 50 schools conducting graduate programs we suggest that each graduate program should have a minimum of \$50,000 annually for program support. Again, I can speak with some feeling about the need for additional funds in graduate programs. I am chairman of the graduate program at the University of Maryland and we have approximately 80 full-time graduate students each year in nursing, and then we also cooperate with the Southern Regional Education Board. The need is so acute in the southern region to prepare faculty for junior colleges as well as the other programs, but the junior colleges seem to feel the pinch more than the others because they are expanding so rapidly. We have modified our curriculum and this summer we are offering courses for faculty who are teaching in