August 1, 2019

The Honorable Danny Davis
Chair, Subcommittee on Worker & Family Support
Ways and Means Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Davis:

On behalf of the National League of Cities, the voice of America’s cities, towns and villages, representing more than 280 million people across the country, thank you for your leadership on the introduction of H.R 3398, the Pathways to Health Careers Act. We are pleased to endorse this legislation that would make an important investment in extending the current Health Profession Opportunity Grant (HPOG) program demonstration grants as well as instituting regular, competitive HPOG grants to meet the growing workforce needs in our communities.

We know that for cities across America to remain competitive, and to continue to create healthy and vibrant communities, we will need to continue to ensure that we have a trained and skilled workforce. We also know that the U.S. will need to hire 2.3 million more healthcare workers by 2025 to meet the growing workforce gaps that exist in every occupation across the sector.

The Pathways to Health Careers Act provides for an important investment in education and training, work supports and case management to ensure that those with high barriers to employment, including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients, have access to apprenticeships and other work-based learning models to help them enter the workforce and move up the career ladder within the healthcare sector.

We look forward to partnering with you and your colleagues in support of this important investment in workforce development. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Stephanie Martinez-Ruckman, Program Director for Human Development at martinez-ruckman@nlc.org or 202-626-3098 if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Clarence E. Anthony
CEO and Executive Director