

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 3422

To establish a grant program to support schools of medicine and schools of osteopathic medicine in underserved areas.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 16, 2021

Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. PADILLA) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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## A BILL

To establish a grant program to support schools of medicine and schools of osteopathic medicine in underserved areas.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Expanding Medical  
5 Education Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS FOR SCHOOLS OF MEDICINE AND SCHOOLS**  
 2 **OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE IN UNDER-**  
 3 **SERVED AREAS.**

4 Subpart II of part C of title VII of the Public Health  
 5 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 293m et seq.) is amended by add-  
 6 ing at the end the following:

7 **“SEC. 749C. GRANTS FOR SCHOOLS OF MEDICINE AND**  
 8 **SCHOOLS OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE IN UN-**  
 9 **DERSERVED AREAS.**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through  
 11 the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services  
 12 Administration, may award grants to institutions of high-  
 13 er education (including consortiums of such institutions)  
 14 for the establishment, improvement, or expansion of a  
 15 school of medicine or osteopathic medicine, or a branch  
 16 campus of a school of medicine or osteopathic medicine.

17 “(b) PRIORITY.—In selecting grant recipients under  
 18 this section, the Secretary shall give priority to any insti-  
 19 tution of higher education (or consortium of such institu-  
 20 tions) that—

21 “(1) proposes to use the grant for the establish-  
 22 ment of a school of medicine or osteopathic medi-  
 23 cine, or a branch campus of a school of medicine or  
 24 osteopathic medicine, in an area—

25 “(A) in which no other such school is  
 26 based; and

1           “(B) that is a medically underserved com-  
2           munity or a health professional shortage area;  
3           or

4           “(2) is a minority-serving institution described  
5           in section 371(a) of the Higher Education Act of  
6           1965.

7           “(c) CONSIDERATIONS.—In awarding grants under  
8           this section, the Secretary, to the extent practicable, may  
9           ensure equitable distribution of awards among the geo-  
10          graphical regions of the United States.

11          “(d) USE OF FUNDS.—An institution of higher edu-  
12          cation (or a consortium of such institutions)—

13                 “(1) shall use grant amounts received under  
14          this section to—

15                 “(A) recruit, enroll, and retain students,  
16                 including individuals who are from disadvan-  
17                 tagged backgrounds (including racial and ethnic  
18                 groups underrepresented among medical stu-  
19                 dents and health professions), individuals from  
20                 rural and underserved areas, low-income indi-  
21                 viduals, and first generation college students, at  
22                 a school of medicine or osteopathic medicine or  
23                 branch campus of a school of medicine or osteo-  
24                 pathic medicine; and

1           “(B) develop, implement, and expand cur-  
2           riculum that emphasizes care for rural and un-  
3           derserved populations, including accessible and  
4           culturally and linguistically appropriate care  
5           and services, at such school or branch campus;  
6           and

7           “(2) may use grant amounts received under this  
8           section to—

9           “(A) plan and construct—

10           “(i) a school of medicine or osteo-  
11           pathic medicine in an area in which no  
12           other such school is based; or

13           “(ii) a branch campus of a school of  
14           medicine or osteopathic medicine in an  
15           area in which no other such school is  
16           based;

17           “(B) plan, develop, and meet criteria for  
18           accreditation for a school of medicine or osteo-  
19           pathic medicine or branch campus of a school  
20           of medicine or osteopathic medicine;

21           “(C) hire faculty, including faculty from  
22           racial and ethnic groups who are underrep-  
23           resented among the medical and other health  
24           professions, and other staff to serve at such a  
25           school or branch campus;

1           “(D) support educational programs at such  
2           a school or branch campus;

3           “(E) modernize and expand infrastructure  
4           at such a school or branch campus; and

5           “(F) support other activities that the Sec-  
6           retary determines further the establishment,  
7           improvement, or expansion of a school of medi-  
8           cine or osteopathic medicine or branch campus  
9           of a school of medicine or osteopathic medicine.

10          “(e) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant  
11          under subsection (a), an institution of higher education  
12          (or a consortium of such institutions), shall submit an ap-  
13          plication to the Secretary at such time, in such manner,  
14          and containing such information as the Secretary may re-  
15          quire, including a description of the institution’s or con-  
16          sortium’s planned activities described in subsection (d).

17          “(f) REPORTING.—

18                 “(1) REPORTS FROM ENTITIES.—Each institu-  
19                 tion of higher education, or consortium of such insti-  
20                 tutions, awarded a grant under this section shall  
21                 submit an annual report to the Secretary on the ac-  
22                 tivities conducted under such grant, and other infor-  
23                 mation as the Secretary may require.

24                 “(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 5  
25                 years after the date of enactment of this section and

1 every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary shall submit  
2 to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and  
3 Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on En-  
4 ergy and Commerce of the House of Representatives  
5 a report that provides a summary of the activities  
6 and outcomes associated with grants made under  
7 this section. Such reports shall include—

8 “(A) a list of awardees, including their pri-  
9 mary geographic location, and location of any  
10 school of medicine or osteopathic medicine, or a  
11 branch campus of school of medicine or osteo-  
12 pathic medicine that was established, improved,  
13 or expanded under this program;

14 “(B) the total number of students (includ-  
15 ing the number of students from racial and eth-  
16 nic groups underrepresented among medical  
17 students and health professions, low-income  
18 students, and first generation college students)  
19 who—

20 “(i) are enrolled at or who have grad-  
21 uated from any school of medicine or os-  
22 teopathic medicine, or a branch campus of  
23 school of medicine or osteopathic medicine,  
24 that was established, improved, or ex-  
25 panded under this program, deidentified

1 and disaggregated by race, ethnicity, age,  
2 sex, geographic region, disability status,  
3 and other relevant factors, to the extent  
4 such information is available; and

5 “(ii) who subsequently participate in  
6 an accredited internship or medical resi-  
7 dency program upon graduation from any  
8 school of medicine or osteopathic medicine,  
9 or a branch campus of a school of medicine  
10 or osteopathic medicine, that was estab-  
11 lished, improved, or expanded under this  
12 program, deidentified and disaggregated by  
13 race, ethnicity, age, sex, geographic region,  
14 disability status, medical specialty pursued,  
15 and other relevant factors, to the extent  
16 such information is available;

17 “(C) the effects of such program on the  
18 health care provider workforce, including any  
19 impact on demographic representation  
20 disaggregated by race, ethnicity, and sex, and  
21 the fields or specialties pursued by students  
22 who have graduated from any school of medi-  
23 cine or osteopathic medicine, or a branch cam-  
24 pus of school of medicine or osteopathic medi-

1           eine, that was established, improved, or ex-  
2           panded under this program;

3           “(D) the effects of such program on health  
4           care access in underserved areas, including  
5           medically underserved communities and health  
6           professional shortage areas; and

7           “(E) recommendations for improving the  
8           program described in this section, and any  
9           other considerations as the Secretary deter-  
10          mines appropriate.

11          “(3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary  
12          shall make reports submitted under paragraph (2)  
13          publicly available on the internet website of the De-  
14          partment of Health and Human Services.

15          “(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16                 “(1) BRANCH CAMPUS.—

17                         “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘branch  
18                         campus’, with respect to a school of medicine or  
19                         osteopathic medicine, means an additional loca-  
20                         tion of such school that is geographically apart  
21                         and independent of the main campus, at which  
22                         the school offers at least 50 percent of the pro-  
23                         gram leading to a degree of doctor of medicine  
24                         or doctor of osteopathy that is offered at the  
25                         main campus.



1           “(B) INDEPENDENCE FROM MAIN CAM-  
 2           PUS.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the  
 3           location of a school described in such subpara-  
 4           graph shall be considered to be independent of  
 5           the main campus described in such subpara-  
 6           graph if the location—

7                   “(i) is permanent in nature;

8                   “(ii) offers courses in educational pro-  
 9                   grams leading to a degree, certificate, or  
 10                   other recognized educational credential;

11                   “(iii) has its own faculty and adminis-  
 12                   trative or supervisory organization; and

13                   “(iv) has its own budgetary and hiring  
 14                   authority.

15           “(2) FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT.—

16           The term ‘first generation college student’ has the  
 17           meaning given such term in section 402A(h)(3) of  
 18           the Higher Education Act of 1965.

19           “(3) HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE  
 20           AREA.—The term ‘health professional shortage area’  
 21           has the meaning given such term in section 332(a).

22           “(4) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—

23           The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the  
 24           meaning given such term in section 101 of the High-  
 25           er Education Act of 1965.

1           “(5) MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED COMMUNITY.—

2           The term ‘medically underserved community’ has the

3           meaning given such term in section 799B(6).

4           “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There

5           is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-

6           essary to carry out this section.”.

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