

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1929

To provide relief for the shortage of nurses in the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 13, 2011

Mr. SENSENBRENNER (for himself and Mr. POLIS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide relief for the shortage of nurses in the United States, and for other purposes.

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 “Emergency Nursing
5 Supply Relief Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. NURSING SHORTAGE RELIEF.**

7 (a) INCREASING VISA NUMBERS.—Section 106 of the
8 American Competitiveness in the Twenty-first Century

1 Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–313; 8 U.S.C. 1153 note)
2 is amended by adding at the end the following:

3 “(e) VISA SHORTAGE RELIEF FOR NURSES.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
5 for petitions filed any time prior to September 30,
6 2014, for employment-based immigrants (and their
7 family members accompanying or following to join
8 under section 203(d) of the Immigration and Na-
9 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(d))), which are or have
10 been approved based on Schedule A, Group I as de-
11 fined in section 656.5 of title 20, Code of Federal
12 Regulations, as promulgated by the Secretary of
13 Labor, the numerical limitations set forth in sections
14 201(d) and 202(a) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1151(d)
15 and 1152(a)) shall not apply.

16 “(2) LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF VISAS.—The
17 Secretary of State may not issue more than 20,000
18 immigrant visa numbers in any one fiscal year (plus
19 any available visa numbers under this paragraph not
20 used during the preceding fiscal year) to principal
21 beneficiaries of petitions pursuant to paragraph (1).

22 “(3) EXPEDITED REVIEW.—The Secretary of
23 Homeland Security shall provide a process for re-
24 viewing and acting upon petitions with respect to
25 immigrants described in paragraph (1) not later

1 than 30 days after the date on which a completed
2 petition has been filed.

3 “(f) FEE FOR USE OF VISAS UNDER SUBSECTION
4 (a).—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland
6 Security shall impose a fee upon each petitioning
7 employer who uses a visa provided under subsection
8 (e) to provide employment for an alien as a profes-
9 sional nurse, except that—

10 “(A) such fee shall be in the amount of
11 \$1,500 for each such alien nurse (but not for
12 dependents accompanying or following to join
13 who are not professional nurses); and

14 “(B) no fee shall be imposed for the use of
15 such visas if the employer demonstrates to the
16 Secretary that—

17 “(i) the employer is a health care fa-
18 cility that is located in a county or parish
19 that received individual and public assist-
20 ance pursuant to Major Disaster Declara-
21 tion number 1603 or 1607; or

22 “(ii) the employer is a health care fa-
23 cility that has been designated as a Health
24 Professional Shortage Area facility by the
25 Secretary of Health and Human Services

1 as defined in section 332 of the Public
2 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254e).

3 “(2) **FEE COLLECTION.**—A fee imposed by the
4 Secretary of Homeland Security pursuant to para-
5 graph (1) shall be collected by the Secretary as a
6 condition of approval of an application for adjust-
7 ment of status by the beneficiary of a petition or by
8 the Secretary of State as a condition of issuance of
9 a visa to such beneficiary.”.

10 (b) **CAPITATION GRANTS TO INCREASE THE NUM-**
11 **BER OF NURSING FACULTY AND STUDENTS; DOMESTIC**
12 **NURSING ENHANCEMENT ACCOUNT.**—Part D of title VIII
13 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296p et seq.)
14 is amended by adding at the end the following:

15 **“SEC. 832. CAPITATION GRANTS.**

16 “(a) **IN GENERAL.**—For the purpose described in
17 subsection (b), the Secretary, acting through the Health
18 Resources and Services Administration, shall award a
19 grant each fiscal year in an amount determined in accord-
20 ance with subsection (c) to each eligible school of nursing
21 that submits an application in accordance with this sec-
22 tion.

23 “(b) **PURPOSE.**—A funding agreement for a grant
24 under this section is that the eligible school of nursing
25 involved will expend the grant to increase the number of

1 nursing faculty and students at the school, including by
2 hiring new faculty, retaining current faculty, purchasing
3 educational equipment and audiovisual laboratories, en-
4 hancing clinical laboratories, repairing and expanding in-
5 frastructure, or recruiting students.

6 “(c) GRANT COMPUTATION.—

7 “(1) AMOUNT PER STUDENT.—Subject to para-
8 graph (2), the amount of a grant to an eligible
9 school of nursing under this section for a fiscal year
10 shall be the total of the following:

11 “(A) \$1,800 for each full-time or part-time
12 student who is enrolled at the school in a grad-
13 uate program in nursing that—

14 “(i) leads to a master’s degree, a doc-
15 toral degree, or an equivalent degree; and

16 “(ii) prepares individuals to serve as
17 faculty through additional course work in
18 education and ensuring competency in an
19 advanced practice area.

20 “(B) \$1,405 for each full-time or part-time
21 student who—

22 “(i) is enrolled at the school in a pro-
23 gram in nursing leading to a bachelor of
24 science degree, a bachelor of nursing de-
25 gree, a graduate degree in nursing if such

1 program does not meet the requirements of
2 subparagraph (A), or an equivalent degree;
3 and

4 “(ii) has not more than 3 years of
5 academic credits remaining in the pro-
6 gram.

7 “(C) \$966 for each full-time or part-time
8 student who is enrolled at the school in a pro-
9 gram in nursing leading to an associate degree
10 in nursing or an equivalent degree.

11 “(2) LIMITATION.—In calculating the amount
12 of a grant to a school under paragraph (1), the Sec-
13 retary may not make a payment with respect to a
14 particular student—

15 “(A) for more than 2 fiscal years in the
16 case of a student described in paragraph (1)(A)
17 who is enrolled in a graduate program in nurs-
18 ing leading to a master’s degree or an equiva-
19 lent degree;

20 “(B) for more than 4 fiscal years in the
21 case of a student described in paragraph (1)(A)
22 who is enrolled in a graduate program in nurs-
23 ing leading to a doctoral degree or an equiva-
24 lent degree;

1 “(C) for more than 3 fiscal years in the
2 case of a student described in paragraph
3 (1)(B); or

4 “(D) for more than 2 fiscal years in the
5 case of a student described in paragraph
6 (1)(C).

7 “(d) ELIGIBILITY.—In this section, the term ‘eligible
8 school of nursing’ means a school of nursing that—

9 “(1) is accredited by a nursing accrediting
10 agency recognized by the Secretary of Education;

11 “(2) has a passage rate on the National Council
12 Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses of not
13 less than 80 percent for each of the 3 academic
14 years preceding submission of the grant application;
15 and

16 “(3) has a graduation rate (based on the num-
17 ber of students in a class who graduate relative to,
18 for a baccalaureate program, the number of students
19 who were enrolled in the class at the beginning of
20 junior year or, for an associate degree program, the
21 number of students who were enrolled in the class
22 at the end of the first year) of not less than 80 per-
23 cent for each of the 3 academic years preceding sub-
24 mission of the grant application.

1 “(e) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may award a
2 grant under this section to an eligible school of nursing
3 only if the school gives assurances satisfactory to the Sec-
4 retary that, for each academic year for which the grant
5 is awarded, the school will comply with the following:

6 “(1) The school will maintain a passage rate on
7 the National Council Licensure Examination for
8 Registered Nurses of not less than 80 percent.

9 “(2) The school will maintain a graduation rate
10 (as described in subsection (d)(3)) of not less than
11 80 percent.

12 “(3)(A) Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C),
13 the first-year enrollment of full-time nursing stu-
14 dents in the school will exceed such enrollment for
15 the preceding academic year by 5 percent or 5 stu-
16 dents, whichever is greater.

17 “(B) Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the
18 first academic year for which a school receives a
19 grant under this section.

20 “(C) With respect to any academic year, the
21 Secretary may waive application of subparagraph
22 (A) if—

23 “(i) the physical facilities at the school in-
24 volved limit the school from enrolling additional
25 students; or

1 “(ii) the school has increased enrollment in
2 the school (as described in subparagraph (A))
3 for each of the 2 preceding academic years.

4 “(4) Not later than 1 year after receiving a
5 grant under this section, the school will formulate
6 and implement a plan to accomplish at least 2 of the
7 following:

8 “(A) Establishing or significantly expand-
9 ing an accelerated baccalaureate degree nursing
10 program designed to graduate new nurses in 12
11 to 18 months.

12 “(B) Establishing cooperative intradisci-
13 plinary education among schools of nursing
14 with a view toward shared use of technological
15 resources, including information technology.

16 “(C) Establishing cooperative interdiscipli-
17 nary training between schools of nursing and
18 schools of allied health, medicine, dentistry, os-
19 teopathy, optometry, podiatry, pharmacy, public
20 health, or veterinary medicine, including train-
21 ing for the use of the interdisciplinary team ap-
22 proach to the delivery of health services.

23 “(D) Integrating core competencies on evi-
24 dence-based practice, quality improvements, and
25 patient-centered care.

1 “(E) Increasing admissions, enrollment,
2 and retention of qualified individuals who are
3 financially disadvantaged.

4 “(F) Increasing enrollment of minority and
5 diverse student populations.

6 “(G) Increasing enrollment of new grad-
7 uate baccalaureate nursing students in graduate
8 programs that educate nurse faculty members.

9 “(H) Developing post-baccalaureate resi-
10 dency programs to prepare nurses for practice
11 in specialty areas where nursing shortages are
12 most severe.

13 “(I) Increasing integration of geriatric con-
14 tent into the core curriculum.

15 “(J) Partnering with economically dis-
16 advantaged communities to provide nursing
17 education.

18 “(K) Expanding the ability of nurse man-
19 aged health centers to provide clinical education
20 training sites to nursing students.

21 “(5) The school will submit an annual report to
22 the Secretary that includes updated information on
23 the school with respect to student enrollment, stu-
24 dent retention, graduation rates, passage rates on
25 the National Council Licensure Examination for

1 Registered Nurses, the number of graduates em-
2 ployed as nursing faculty or nursing care providers
3 within 12 months of graduation, and the number of
4 students who are accepted into graduate programs
5 for further nursing education.

6 “(6) The school will allow the Secretary to
7 make on-site inspections, and will comply with the
8 Secretary’s requests for information, to determine
9 the extent to which the school is complying with the
10 requirements of this section.

11 “(f) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall
12 evaluate the results of grants under this section and sub-
13 mit to Congress—

14 “(1) not later than 18 months after the date of
15 the enactment of this section, an interim report on
16 such results; and

17 “(2) not later than September 30, 2012, a final
18 report on such results.

19 “(g) APPLICATION.—An eligible school of nursing
20 seeking a grant under this section shall submit an applica-
21 tion to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
22 containing such information and assurances as the Sec-
23 retary may require.

24 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In ad-
25 dition to the amounts in the Domestic Nursing Enhance-

1 ment Account, established under section 833, there are
2 authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-
3 essary to carry out this section.

4 **“SEC. 833. DOMESTIC NURSING ENHANCEMENT ACCOUNT.**

5 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
6 general fund of the Treasury a separate account which
7 shall be known as the ‘Domestic Nursing Enhancement
8 Account’. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
9 there shall be deposited as offsetting receipts into the ac-
10 count all fees collected under section 106(f) of the Amer-
11 ican Competitiveness in the Twenty-first Century Act of
12 2000 (Public Law 106–313; 8 U.S.C. 1153 note). Nothing
13 in this subsection shall prohibit the depositing of other
14 moneys into the account established under this section.

15 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts collected under sec-
16 tion 106(f) of the American Competitiveness in the Twen-
17 ty-first Century Act of 2000, and deposited into the ac-
18 count established under subsection (a) shall be used by
19 the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out
20 section 832. Such amounts shall be available for obligation
21 only to the extent, and in the amount, provided in advance
22 in appropriations Acts. Such amounts are authorized to
23 remain available until expended.”.

24 (c) GLOBAL HEALTH CARE COOPERATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Immigration
2 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.) is
3 amended by inserting after section 317 the fol-
4 lowing:

5 **“SEC. 317A. TEMPORARY ABSENCE OF ALIENS PROVIDING**
6 **HEALTH CARE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.**

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other pro-
8 vision of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security
9 shall allow an eligible alien and the spouse or child of such
10 alien to reside in a candidate country during the period
11 that the eligible alien is working as a physician or other
12 health care worker in a candidate country. During such
13 period the eligible alien and such spouse or child shall be
14 considered—

15 “(1) to be physically present and residing in the
16 United States for purposes of naturalization under
17 section 316(a); and

18 “(2) to meet the continuous residency require-
19 ments under section 316(b).

20 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

21 “(1) CANDIDATE COUNTRY.—The term ‘can-
22 didate country’ means a country that the Secretary
23 of State determines to be—

24 “(A) eligible for assistance from the Inter-
25 national Development Association, in which the

1 per capita income of the country is equal to or
2 less than the historical ceiling of the Inter-
3 national Development Association for the appli-
4 cable fiscal year, as defined by the International
5 Bank for Reconstruction and Development;

6 “(B) classified as a lower middle income
7 country in the then most recent edition of the
8 World Development Report for Reconstruction
9 and Development published by the International
10 Bank for Reconstruction and Development and
11 having an income greater than the historical
12 ceiling for International Development Associa-
13 tion eligibility for the applicable fiscal year; or

14 “(C) qualified to be a candidate country
15 due to special circumstances, including natural
16 disasters or public health emergencies.

17 “(2) ELIGIBLE ALIEN.—The term ‘eligible
18 alien’ means an alien who—

19 “(A) has been lawfully admitted to the
20 United States for permanent residence; and

21 “(B) is a physician or other healthcare
22 worker.

23 “(c) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of Homeland
24 Security shall consult with the Secretary of State in car-
25 rying out this section.

1 “(d) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary of State shall
2 publish—

3 “(1) not later than 180 days after the date of
4 the enactment of this section, a list of candidate
5 countries;

6 “(2) an updated version of the list required by
7 paragraph (1) not less often than once each year;
8 and

9 “(3) an amendment to the list required by
10 paragraph (1) at the time any country qualifies as
11 a candidate country due to special circumstances
12 under subsection (b)(1)(C).”.

13 (2) RULEMAKING.—

14 (A) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 180
15 days after the date of the enactment of this
16 Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall
17 promulgate regulations to carry out the amend-
18 ments made by this subsection.

19 (B) CONTENT.—The regulations promul-
20 gated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall—

21 (i) permit an eligible alien (as defined
22 in section 317A of the Immigration and
23 Nationality Act, as added by paragraph
24 (1)) and the spouse or child of the eligible
25 alien to reside in a foreign country to work

1 as a physician or other healthcare worker
2 as described in subsection (a) of such sec-
3 tion 317A for not less than a 12-month pe-
4 riod and not more than a 24-month period,
5 and shall permit the Secretary to extend
6 such period for an additional period not to
7 exceed 12 months, if the Secretary deter-
8 mines that such country has a continuing
9 need for such a physician or other
10 healthcare worker;

11 (ii) provide for the issuance of docu-
12 ments by the Secretary to such eligible
13 alien, and such spouse or child, if appro-
14 priate, to demonstrate that such eligible
15 alien, and such spouse or child, if appro-
16 priate, is authorized to reside in such
17 country under such section 317A; and

18 (iii) provide for an expedited process
19 through which the Secretary shall review
20 applications for such an eligible alien to re-
21 side in a foreign country pursuant to sub-
22 section (a) of such section 317A if the Sec-
23 retary of State determines a country is a
24 candidate country pursuant to subsection
25 (b)(1)(C) of such section 317A.

1 (3) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMEND-
2 MENTS.—

3 (A) DEFINITION.—Section
4 101(a)(13)(C)(ii) of the Immigration and Na-
5 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(13)(C)(ii)) is
6 amended by adding at the end the following:
7 “except in the case of an eligible alien, or the
8 spouse or child of such alien, who is authorized
9 to be absent from the United States under sec-
10 tion 317A,”.

11 (B) DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS.—Sec-
12 tion 211(b) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1181(b)) is
13 amended by inserting “, including an eligible
14 alien authorized to reside in a foreign country
15 under section 317A and the spouse or child of
16 such eligible alien, if appropriate,” after
17 “101(a)(27)(A),”.

18 (C) INELIGIBLE ALIENS.—Section
19 212(a)(7)(A)(i)(I) of such Act (8 U.S.C.
20 1182(a)(7)(A)(i)(I)) is amended by inserting
21 “other than an eligible alien authorized to re-
22 side in a foreign country under section 317A
23 and the spouse or child of such eligible alien, if
24 appropriate,” after “Act,”.

1 (D) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of
2 contents of such Act is amended by inserting
3 after the item relating to section 317 the fol-
4 lowing:

“Sec. 317A. Temporary absence of aliens providing health care in developing countries.”.

5 (4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
6 There are authorized to be appropriated to U.S.
7 Citizenship and Immigration Services such sums as
8 may be necessary to carry out this subsection and
9 the amendments made by this subsection.

10 (d) ATTESTATION BY HEALTH CARE WORKERS.—

11 (1) ATTESTATION REQUIREMENT.—Section
12 212(a)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
13 U.S.C. 1182(a)(5)) is amended by adding at the end
14 the following:

15 “(E) HEALTH CARE WORKERS WITH
16 OTHER OBLIGATIONS.—

17 “(i) IN GENERAL.—An alien who
18 seeks to enter the United States for the
19 purpose of performing labor as a physician
20 or other health care worker is inadmissible
21 unless the alien submits to the Secretary of
22 Homeland Security or the Secretary of
23 State, as appropriate, an attestation that
24 the alien is not seeking to enter the United

1 States for such purpose during any period
2 in which the alien has an outstanding obli-
3 gation to the government of the alien's
4 country of origin or the alien's country of
5 residence.

6 “(ii) OBLIGATION DEFINED.—In this
7 subparagraph, the term ‘obligation’ means
8 an obligation incurred as part of a valid,
9 voluntary individual agreement in which
10 the alien received financial assistance to
11 defray the costs of education or training to
12 qualify as a physician or other health care
13 worker in consideration for a commitment
14 to work as a physician or other health care
15 worker in the alien's country of origin or
16 the alien's country of residence.

17 “(iii) WAIVER.—The Secretary of
18 Homeland Security may waive a finding of
19 inadmissibility under clause (i) if the Sec-
20 retary determines that—

21 “(I) the obligation was incurred
22 by coercion or other improper means;

23 “(II) the alien and the govern-
24 ment of the country to which the alien
25 has an outstanding obligation have

1 reached a valid, voluntary agreement,
2 pursuant to which the alien's obliga-
3 tion has been deemed satisfied, or the
4 alien has shown to the satisfaction of
5 the Secretary that the alien has been
6 unable to reach such an agreement
7 because of coercion or other improper
8 means; or

9 “(III) the obligation should not
10 be enforced due to other extraordinary
11 circumstances, including undue hard-
12 ship that would be suffered by the
13 alien in the absence of a waiver.”.

14 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICATION.—

15 (A) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment
16 made by paragraph (1) shall take effect on the
17 date that is 180 days after the date of the en-
18 actment of this Act.

19 (B) APPLICATION BY THE SECRETARY.—
20 Not later than the effective date described in
21 subparagraph (A), the Secretary of Homeland
22 Security shall begin to carry out subparagraph
23 (E) of section 212(a)(5) of the Immigration
24 and Nationality Act, as added by paragraph
25 (1), including the requirement for the attesta-

1 tion and the granting of a waiver described in
2 clause (iii) of such subparagraph (E), regard-
3 less of whether regulations to implement such
4 subparagraph have been promulgated.

5 **SEC. 3. NURSE TRAINING AND RETENTION DEMONSTRATION GRANT ACT OF 2008.**
6

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
8 ings:

9 (1) America’s healthcare system depends on an
10 adequate supply of trained nurses to deliver quality
11 patient care.

12 (2) Over the next 15 years, this shortage is ex-
13 pected to grow significantly. The Health Resources
14 and Services Administration has projected that by
15 2020, there will be a shortage of nurses in every
16 State and that overall only 64 percent of the de-
17 mand for nurses will be satisfied, with a shortage of
18 1,016,900 nurses nationally.

19 (3) To avert such a shortage, today’s network
20 of healthcare workers should have access to edu-
21 cation and support from their employers to partici-
22 pate in educational and training opportunities.

23 (4) With the appropriate education and sup-
24 port, incumbent healthcare workers and incumbent
25 bedside nurses are untapped sources which can meet

1 these needs and address the nursing shortage and
2 provide quality care as the American population
3 ages.

4 (b) PURPOSES OF GRANT PROGRAM.—It is the pur-
5 pose of this section to authorize grants to—

6 (1) address the projected shortage of nurses by
7 funding comprehensive programs to create a career
8 ladder to nursing (including Certified Nurse Assist-
9 ants, Licensed Practical Nurses, Licensed Vocational
10 Nurses, and Registered Nurses) for incumbent ancil-
11 lary healthcare workers;

12 (2) increase the capacity for educating nurses
13 by increasing both nurse faculty and clinical oppor-
14 tunities through collaborative programs between
15 staff nurse organizations, healthcare providers, and
16 accredited schools of nursing; and

17 (3) provide training programs through edu-
18 cation and training organizations jointly adminis-
19 tered by healthcare providers and healthcare labor
20 organizations or other organizations representing
21 staff nurses and frontline healthcare workers, work-
22 ing in collaboration with accredited schools of nurs-
23 ing and academic institutions.

24 (c) GRANTS.—Not later than 6 months after the date
25 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor (referred

1 to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall establish a
2 partnership grant program to award grants to eligible en-
3 tities to carry out comprehensive programs to provide edu-
4 cation to nurses and create a pipeline to nursing for in-
5 cumbent ancillary healthcare workers who wish to advance
6 their careers, and to otherwise carry out the purposes of
7 this section.

8 (d) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive a
9 grant under this section an entity shall—

10 (1) be—

11 (A) a healthcare entity that is jointly ad-
12 ministered by a healthcare employer and a labor
13 union representing the healthcare employees of
14 the employer and that carries out activities
15 using labor management training funds as pro-
16 vided for under section 302 of the Labor-Man-
17 agement Relations Act, 1947 (18 U.S.C.
18 186(c)(6));

19 (B) an entity that operates a training pro-
20 gram that is jointly administered by—

21 (i) one or more healthcare providers
22 or facilities, or a trade association of
23 healthcare providers; and

24 (ii) one or more organizations which
25 represent the interests of direct care

1 healthcare workers or staff nurses and in
2 which the direct care healthcare workers or
3 staff nurses have direct input as to the
4 leadership of the organization; or

5 (C) a State training partnership program
6 that consists of non-profit organizations that
7 include equal participation from industry, in-
8 cluding public or private employers, and labor
9 organizations including joint labor-management
10 training programs, and which may include rep-
11 resentatives from local governments, worker in-
12 vestment agency one-stop career centers, com-
13 munity based organizations, community col-
14 leges, and accredited schools of nursing; and

15 (2) submit to the Secretary an application at
16 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-
17 formation as the Secretary may require.

18 (e) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR HEALTHCARE
19 EMPLOYER DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (d).—To be eligi-
20 ble for a grant under this section, a healthcare employer
21 described in subsection (d) shall demonstrate—

22 (1) an established program within their facility
23 to encourage the retention of existing nurses;

1 (2) it provides wages and benefits to its nurses
2 that are competitive for its market or that have been
3 collectively bargained with a labor organization; and

4 (3) support for programs funded under this sec-
5 tion through 1 or more of the following:

6 (A) The provision of paid leave time and
7 continued health coverage to incumbent
8 healthcare workers to allow their participation
9 in nursing career ladder programs, including
10 Certified Nurse Assistants, Licensed Practical
11 Nurses, Licensed Vocational Nurses, and Reg-
12 istered Nurses.

13 (B) Contributions to a joint labor-manage-
14 ment or other jointly administered training
15 fund which administers the program involved.

16 (C) The provision of paid release time, in-
17 centive compensation, or continued health cov-
18 erage to staff nurses who desire to work full- or
19 part-time in a faculty position.

20 (D) The provision of paid release time for
21 staff nurses to enable them to obtain a bachelor
22 of science in nursing degree, other advanced
23 nursing degrees, specialty training, or certifi-
24 cation program.

1 (E) The payment of tuition assistance to
2 incumbent healthcare workers.

3 (f) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—

4 (1) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not
6 make a grant under this section unless the ap-
7 plicant involved agrees, with respect to the costs
8 to be incurred by the applicant in carrying out
9 the program under the grant, to make available
10 non-Federal contributions (in cash or in kind
11 under subparagraph (B)) toward such costs in
12 an amount equal to not less than \$1 for each
13 \$1 of Federal funds provided in the grant. Such
14 contributions may be made directly or through
15 donations from public or private entities, or
16 may be provided through the cash equivalent of
17 paid release time provided to incumbent worker
18 students.

19 (B) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT OF NON-
20 FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.—Non-Federal con-
21 tributions required in subparagraph (A) may be
22 in cash or in kind (including paid release time),
23 fairly evaluated, including equipment or services
24 (and excluding indirect or overhead costs).

1 (C) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—
2 Funds made available under this section shall
3 supplement, and not supplant, resources dedi-
4 cated by an entity, or other Federal, State, or
5 local funds available to carry out activities de-
6 scribed in this section.

7 (2) REQUIRED COLLABORATION.—Entities car-
8 rying out or overseeing programs carried out with
9 assistance provided under this section shall dem-
10 onstrate collaboration with accredited schools of
11 nursing which may include community colleges and
12 other academic institutions providing associate,
13 bachelor's, or advanced nursing degree programs or
14 specialty training or certification programs.

15 (g) ACTIVITIES.—Amounts awarded to an entity
16 under a grant under this section shall be used for the fol-
17 lowing:

18 (1) To carry out programs that provide edu-
19 cation and training to establish nursing career lad-
20 ders to educate incumbent healthcare workers to be-
21 come nurses (including Certified Nurse Assistants,
22 Licensed Practical Nurses, Licensed Vocational
23 Nurses, and Registered Nurses). Such programs
24 shall include one or more of the following:

1 (A) Preparing incumbent workers to return
2 to the classroom through English as a second
3 language education, GED education, precollege
4 counseling, college preparation classes, and sup-
5 port with entry level college classes that are a
6 prerequisite to nursing.

7 (B) Providing tuition assistance with pref-
8 erence for dedicated cohort classes in commu-
9 nity colleges, universities, accredited schools of
10 nursing with supportive services including tu-
11 toring and counseling.

12 (C) Providing assistance in preparing for
13 and meeting all nursing licensure tests and re-
14 quirements.

15 (D) Carrying out orientation and
16 mentorship programs that assist newly grad-
17 uated nurses in adjusting to working at the
18 bedside to ensure their retention post gradua-
19 tion, and ongoing programs to support nurse
20 retention.

21 (E) Providing stipends for release time and
22 continued healthcare coverage to enable incum-
23 bent healthcare workers to participate in these
24 programs.

1 (2) To carry out programs that assist nurses in
2 obtaining advanced degrees and completing specialty
3 training or certification programs and to establish
4 incentives for nurses to assume nurse faculty posi-
5 tions on a part-time or full-time basis. Such pro-
6 grams shall include one or more of the following:

7 (A) Increasing the pool of nurses with ad-
8 vanced degrees who are interested in teaching
9 by funding programs that enable incumbent
10 nurses to return to school.

11 (B) Establishing incentives for advanced
12 degree bedside nurses who wish to teach in
13 nursing programs so they can obtain a leave
14 from their bedside position to assume a full- or
15 part-time position as adjunct or full time fac-
16 ulty without the loss of salary or benefits.

17 (C) Collaboration with accredited schools
18 of nursing which may include community col-
19 leges and other academic institutions providing
20 associate, bachelor's, or advanced nursing de-
21 gree programs, or specialty training or certifi-
22 cation programs, for nurses to carry out innova-
23 tive nursing programs which meet the needs of
24 bedside nursing and healthcare providers.

1 (h) PREFERENCE.—In awarding grants under this
2 section the Secretary shall give preference to programs
3 that—

4 (1) provide for improving nurse retention;

5 (2) provide for improving the diversity of the
6 new nurse graduates to reflect changes in the demo-
7 graphics of the patient population;

8 (3) provide for improving the quality of nursing
9 education to improve patient care and safety;

10 (4) have demonstrated success in upgrading in-
11 cumbent healthcare workers to become nurses or
12 which have established effective programs or pilots
13 to increase nurse faculty; or

14 (5) are modeled after or affiliated with such
15 programs described in paragraph (4).

16 (i) EVALUATION.—

17 (1) PROGRAM EVALUATIONS.—An entity that
18 receives a grant under this section shall annually
19 evaluate, and submit to the Secretary a report on,
20 the activities carried out under the grant and the
21 outcomes of such activities. Such outcomes may in-
22 clude—

23 (A) an increased number of incumbent
24 workers entering an accredited school of nurs-
25 ing and in the pipeline for nursing programs;

1 (B) an increasing number of graduating
2 nurses and improved nurse graduation and li-
3 censure rates;

4 (C) improved nurse retention;

5 (D) an increase in the number of staff
6 nurses at the healthcare facility involved;

7 (E) an increase in the number of nurses
8 with advanced degrees in nursing;

9 (F) an increase in the number of nurse
10 faculty;

11 (G) improved measures of patient quality
12 as determined by the Secretary; and

13 (H) an increase in the diversity of new
14 nurse graduates relative to the patient popu-
15 lation.

16 (2) GENERAL REPORT.—Not later than Sep-
17 tember 30, 2013, the Secretary of Labor shall, using
18 data and information from the reports received
19 under paragraph (1), submit to Congress a report
20 concerning the overall effectiveness of the grant pro-
21 gram carried out under this section.

22 (j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
23 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
24 for fiscal years 2012, 2013, and 2014, such sums as may
25 be necessary. Funds appropriated under this subsection

1 shall remain available until expended without fiscal year
2 limitation.

3 **SEC. 4. COLLECTION OF DATA AND REPORTS TO CONGRESS**
4 **ON FOREIGN-TRAINED NURSES NEWLY AD-**
5 **MITTED TO THE UNITED STATES EACH FIS-**
6 **CAL YEAR.**

7 (a) REQUIREMENT TO COLLECT DATA.—With re-
8 spect to each fiscal year, beginning with fiscal year 2011,
9 the Secretary of Homeland Security shall collect the fol-
10 lowing data for each alien that acquires the status of a
11 lawful permanent resident or a temporary alien worker
12 (including as a temporary professional worker under the
13 North American Free Trade Agreement) during that fiscal
14 year for employment as a professional nurse:

15 (1) The country of residence and country of na-
16 tionality of the alien at the time such status is ac-
17 quired.

18 (2) The country or countries in which the alien
19 received the professional education and training to
20 be licensed as a nurse.

21 (3) The name and address of the petitioning
22 employer.

23 (4) The name and address of any recruit-
24 ing agency used by the petitioning employer with re-

1 spect to the recruitment, processing or preparation
2 of the alien for the employment involved.

3 (5) The processing time for review and action
4 on the petition with respect to each such aliens.

5 (b) RESEARCH OF DATA FROM PRIOR FISCAL
6 YEARS.—

7 (1) With respect to the fiscal years 2006
8 through 2010, the Secretary shall determine which
9 of the data required to be collected pursuant to sub-
10 section (a) are available for retrieval in electronic
11 databases maintained by the Secretary.

12 (2) In preparing the report for fiscal year 2011
13 mandated by this section, the Secretary shall include
14 a summary of all such available data for fiscal years
15 2006 through 2010.

16 (c) REPORTS.—The Secretary shall submit annual re-
17 ports aggregating the data collected under subsection (a),
18 and, with respect to the report for fiscal year 2011, such
19 additional data identified pursuant to subsection (b),
20 along with such related information as the Secretary de-
21 termines to be appropriate, to the Committees on the Ju-
22 diciary of the House of Representatives and the Senate
23 not later than 90 days after the end of each fiscal year.
24 Such reports shall include—

1 (1) the aggregate number of aliens who ac-
2 quired a status described in subsection (a) during
3 such fiscal year and subtotals of the status cat-
4 egories acquired;

5 (2) subtotals within each status category for the
6 data element collected pursuant to subsection (a);
7 and

8 (3) the average processing times for each dif-
9 ferent type of petition or application involved in the
10 acquisition of status.

11 (d) PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER.—The
12 Secretary shall cause to have published in the Federal
13 Register notice of the submittal to the Committees on the
14 Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Senate
15 of each report required under subsection (c) and of the
16 availability to the public of each such report.

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