

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6686

To amend the Public Health Service Act to increase access to accelerated postgraduate nursing programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 1, 2020

Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to increase access to accelerated postgraduate nursing programs, 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 “Bringing Additional
5 Nurses to the Fight Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ACCELERATED POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 831(a) of the Public
8 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296p(a)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “or” at the
10 end;

1 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at
2 the end and inserting “; or”; and

3 (3) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(3) developing, implementing, or expanding an
5 accelerated postgraduate nursing program for indi-
6 viduals who—

7 “(A) have earned some credit pursuing a
8 course of study in a nursing-related field (in-
9 cluding foundational science courses at the un-
10 dergraduate level) at an institution of higher
11 education (as defined in section 101 of the
12 Higher Education Act of 1965) or a foreign in-
13 stitution of higher education; and

14 “(B) are citizens, nationals, or lawfully ad-
15 mitted permanent resident aliens of the United
16 States.”.

17 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
18 871 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 298d)
19 is amended by adding at the end the following:

20 “(c) ACCELERATED POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMS.—In
21 addition to amounts made available under paragraph (1),
22 for the purpose of carrying out section 831(a)(3), there
23 are authorized to be appropriated \$30,000,000 for each
24 of fiscal years 2020 through 2023.”.

1 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than one year
2 after the date on which the first grant or contract is made
3 under paragraph (3) of section 831(a) of the Public
4 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296p(a)), as added by sub-
5 section (a), the Secretary of Health and Human Services
6 shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce
7 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on
8 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a
9 report on—

10 (1) the efficacy of the grants awarded under
11 such paragraph in increasing the nursing workforce;

12 (2) a list of the institutions of higher education
13 that developed, implemented, or expanded an accel-
14 erated postgraduate nursing program using such a
15 grant; and

16 (3) the number of students enrolled in each
17 such program.

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