

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1109

To amend title VIII of the Public Health Service Act to extend advanced education nursing grants to support clinical nurse specialist programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 11, 2017

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BURR, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. COLLINS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend title VIII of the Public Health Service Act to extend advanced education nursing grants to support clinical nurse specialist 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 “Title VIII Nursing
5 Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. SUPPORTING CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALISTS.**

2 (a) **ADVANCED EDUCATION NURSING GRANTS.**—Sec-
3 tion 811 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
4 296j) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (b)—

6 (A) by striking “R.N./Master’s” and in-
7 serting “R.N./graduate”; and

8 (B) by inserting “clinical nurse leaders,”
9 before “or public health nurses”;

10 (2) by redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as
11 subsections (g) and (h), respectively; and

12 (3) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-
13 lowing new subsection:

14 “(f) **AUTHORIZED CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST**
15 **PROGRAMS.**—Clinical nurse specialist programs eligible
16 for support under this section are education programs
17 that—

18 “(1) provide registered nurses with full-time
19 clinical nurse specialist education; and

20 “(2) have as their objective the education of
21 clinical nurse specialists who will upon completion of
22 such a program be qualified to effectively provide
23 care through the wellness and illness continuum to
24 inpatients and outpatients experiencing acute and
25 chronic illness.”.

1 (b) DEFINITION OF NURSE-MANAGED CLINIC.—Sec-
2 tion 801 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296)
3 is amended by adding at the end the following:

4 “(18) NURSE-MANAGED HEALTH CLINIC.—The
5 term ‘nurse-managed health clinic’ means a nurse-
6 practice arrangement, managed by advanced practice
7 nurses, that provides primary care or wellness serv-
8 ices to underserved or vulnerable populations and
9 that is associated with a school, college, university,
10 or department of nursing, federally qualified health
11 center, or independent nonprofit health or social
12 services agency.”.

13 (c) NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON NURSE EDU-
14 CATION AND PRACTICE.—Section 851(b)(1)(A)(iv) of the
15 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 297t(b)(1)(A)(iv))
16 is amended by striking “and nurse anesthetists” and in-
17 serting “nurse anesthetists, and clinical nurse specialists”.

18 **SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF FUNDING FOR NURSING**
19 **PROGRAMS.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title VIII of the Public Health
21 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.) is amended—

22 (1) in subsection (i)(1) of section 846 (42
23 U.S.C. 297n; loan repayment and scholarship pro-
24 grams), by striking “2007” and inserting “2022”;

1 (2) in subsection (f) of section 846A (42 U.S.C.
2 297n–1; nurse faculty loan program), by striking
3 “2014” and inserting “2022”;

4 (3) in subsection (e) of section 865 (42 U.S.C.
5 298; comprehensive geriatric education), by striking
6 “2014” and inserting “2022”; and

7 (4) in section 871 (42 U.S.C. 298d; funding for
8 carrying out parts B, C, and section 831)—

9 (A) by striking “2016” and inserting
10 “2022”; and

11 (B) by striking “B, C, and D” and insert-
12 ing “B and C and section 831”.

13 (b) NURSE EDUCATION, PRACTICE, QUALITY, AND
14 RETENTION GRANTS.—Section 831 of the Public Health
15 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296p) is amended—

16 (1) in the section heading, by striking “**AND**
17 **QUALITY**” and inserting “**QUALITY, AND RETEN-**
18 **TION**”;

19 (2) in subsection (c)(1)—

20 (A) by amending subparagraph (A) to read
21 as follows:

22 “(A) to promote career advancement for—

23 “(i) for nursing personnel in a variety
24 of training settings, cross training or spe-
25 cialty training among diverse population

1 groups, and the advancement of individuals
2 including to become professional nurses,
3 advanced education nurses, licensed prac-
4 tical nurses, certified nurse assistants, and
5 home health aides; and

6 “(ii) individuals including licensed
7 practical nurses, licensed vocational nurses,
8 certified nurse assistants, home health
9 aides, diploma degree or associate degree
10 nurses, to become baccalaureate prepared
11 registered nurses or advanced education
12 nurses in order to meet the needs of the
13 registered nurse workforce;”;

14 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the
15 period and inserting “; and”; and

16 (C) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(C) developing and implementing intern-
18 ships and residency programs in collaboration
19 with an accredited school of nursing, as defined
20 by section 801(2), to encourage mentoring and
21 the development of specialties.”;

22 (3) in subsection (g)—

23 (A) by striking “,” and inserting “;”;

24 (B) by striking “or”; and

- 1 (C) by inserting “, or a nurse-managed
- 2 health clinic” before the period; and
- 3 (4) by striking subsection (h).

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