

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4665

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to associate degree schools of nursing and professional nursing organizations to improve nursing education, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 7, 2002

Mr. CAPUANO (for himself and Mr. FLETCHER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to associate degree schools of nursing and professional nursing organizations to improve nursing education, 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 referred to as the “Nurse Education
5 Promotion Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. GRANTS FOR NURSING EDUCATION.**

7 (a) ASSOCIATE SCHOOLS OF NURSING.—Part D of
8 title VIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.

1 296p et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
2 lowing:

3 **“SEC. 832. GRANTS FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE SCHOOLS OF**
4 **NURSING.**

5 “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may
6 award grants on a competitive basis to associate degree
7 schools of nursing to establish or expand programs of edu-
8 cation in professional nursing.

9 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary may not award
10 a grant to an applicant under subsection (a) unless the
11 applicant involved agrees that funds received as a grant
12 under this section will be used only to pay all or part of
13 the costs of the following:

14 “(1) Recruitment of nursing students.

15 “(2) Scholarships for nursing students.

16 “(3) Hiring nursing faculty.

17 “(c) ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS.—For pur-
18 poses of awarding a scholarship described in subsection
19 (b)(2), an associate degree school of nursing shall treat
20 an individual as eligible for the scholarship irrespective of
21 whether the individual has or has not previously received
22 any postsecondary education.”.

23 (b) CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR CERTAIN
24 NURSES.—Part D of title VIII of the Public Health Serv-

1 ice Act (42 U.S.C. 296p et seq.) is further amended by
2 adding at the end the following:

3 **“SEC. 833. GRANTS FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR CER-**
4 **TAIN NURSES.**

5 “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may
6 award grants on a competitive basis to professional nurs-
7 ing organizations (including nursing union chapters) to es-
8 tablish and administer cooperative programs described in
9 subsection (b).

10 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary may not award
11 a grant to an applicant under subsection (a) unless the
12 applicant involved agrees that funds received as a grant
13 under this section will be used to establish or administer
14 a program, in cooperation with one or more hospitals and
15 one or more colleges, to enable individuals who have re-
16 ceived an associate degree in nursing (or its equivalent)
17 or a diploma in nursing—

18 “(1) to pursue a full-time or half-time course of
19 study leading to a baccalaureate degree in nursing
20 or an equivalent degree; or

21 “(2) to receive training in a nursing specialty
22 that has been designated by the Secretary as under-
23 staffed and critical.

24 “(c) CLINICAL TRAINING.—The Secretary may not
25 award a grant to a professional nursing organization to

1 establish or administer a program under subsection (a)
2 unless the organization agrees to ensure the following:

3 “(1) CHOICE.—Subject to paragraph (2), the
4 professional nursing organization will allow an indi-
5 vidual pursuing a course of study or receiving train-
6 ing pursuant to subsection (b)(1) or (b)(2) to choose
7 to perform the clinical portion of the study or train-
8 ing at the hospital where the individual is employed
9 or at any hospital cooperating in the program.

10 “(2) AGREEMENT.—An individual may perform
11 the clinical portion described in paragraph (1) at the
12 hospital chosen by the individual under such para-
13 graph only if the hospital agrees to provide the clin-
14 ical portion.

15 “(3) PRIORITY.—If a particular hospital cannot
16 accommodate all of the individuals who choose to
17 perform the clinical portion described in paragraph
18 (1) at that hospital, the professional nursing organi-
19 zation will give priority to the choice of any such in-
20 dividual who is employed at that hospital.

21 “(4) RELATION TO REGULAR WORK.— In the
22 case of an individual who performs the clinical por-
23 tion described in paragraph (1) at the hospital where
24 the individual is employed, that hospital may incor-

1 porate all or some of the clinical portion into the
2 regular work period of the individual.

3 “(d) COMPENSATION.—The Secretary may not award
4 a grant to a professional nursing organization to establish
5 or administer a program under subsection (a) unless the
6 organization agrees compensate each hospital and college
7 that cooperates in the program, at rates to be negotiated
8 between the organization and the respective hospital or
9 college.”.

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