

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4781

To remove barriers to health professions by providing resources to access foundational educational training, such as English language proficiency and adult basic education, and to require the provision of child care, in demonstration projects funded under the health profession opportunity grant program under section 2008 of the Social Security Act.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 20, 2023

Ms. CHU introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To remove barriers to health professions by providing resources to access foundational educational training, such as English language proficiency and adult basic education, and to require the provision of child care, in demonstration projects funded under the health profession opportunity grant program under section 2008 of the Social Security Act.

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 “Essential Skills and
5 Child Care for Health Professions Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROVISION OF FOUNDATIONAL EDUCATIONAL**
2 **TRAINING AND CHILD CARE.**

3 Section 2008 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
4 1397g) is amended by redesignating subsections (c) and
5 (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively, and by insert-
6 ing after subsection (b) the following:

7 “(c) PROVISION OF FOUNDATIONAL EDUCATIONAL
8 TRAINING AND CHILD CARE.—

9 “(1) REQUIRED SUPPORT.—A demonstration
10 project for which a grant is made under this section
11 shall include the following:

12 “(A) An assessment for adult basic skill
13 competency, and provision of adult basic skills
14 education if necessary for lower-skilled eligible
15 individuals to enroll in the project and go on to
16 enter and complete post-secondary training,
17 through means including the following:

18 “(i) Establishing a network of part-
19 ners that offer pre-training activities for
20 project participants who need to improve
21 basic academic skills or English language
22 proficiency before entering a health occu-
23 pational training career pathway program.

24 “(ii) Offering resources to enable
25 project participants to continue advancing

1 adult basic skill proficiency while enrolled
2 in a career pathway program.

3 “(iii) Embedding adult basic skill
4 maintenance as part of ongoing post-grad-
5 uation career coaching and mentoring.

6 “(B) A guarantee that child care is an
7 available and affordable support service for
8 project participants through means such as the
9 following:

10 “(i) Referral to, and assistance with,
11 enrollment in a subsidized child care pro-
12 gram.

13 “(ii) Direct payment to a child care
14 provider if a slot in a subsidized child care
15 program is not available or reasonably ac-
16 cessible.

17 “(iii) Payment of co-payments or as-
18 sociated fees for child care.

19 “(2) ALLOWED SUPPORT.—The goods and serv-
20 ices provided under a demonstration project for
21 which a grant is made under this section may in-
22 clude assistance with accessing and completing high
23 school equivalency or adult basic education courses
24 as necessary to achieve success in the project and
25 make progress toward career goals.”.

1 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
3 on October 1, 2023.

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