

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2168

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a dental education loan repayment program to encourage dentists to serve at facilities with a critical shortage of dentists in areas with a high incidence of HIV/AIDS.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 3, 2007

Ms. NORTON 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 establish a dental education loan repayment program to encourage dentists to serve at facilities with a critical shortage of dentists in areas with a high incidence of HIV/AIDS.

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 “Dedicated Dental Serv-
5 ice for HIV/AIDS Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. DENTAL EDUCATION LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
3 Human Services may enter into an agreement with any
4 dentist under which—

5 (1) the dentist agrees to serve as a dentist for
6 a period of not less than two years at a facility with
7 a critical shortage of dentists (as determined by the
8 Secretary) in an area with a high incidence of HIV/
9 AIDS; and

10 (2) the Secretary agrees to make payments in
11 accordance with subsection (b) on the dental edu-
12 cation loans of the dentist.

13 (b) MANNER OF PAYMENTS.—The payments de-
14 scribed in subsection (a) shall be made by the Secretary
15 as follows:

16 (1) Upon completion by the dentist for whom
17 the payments are to be made of the first year of the
18 service specified in the agreement entered into with
19 the Secretary under subsection (a), the Secretary
20 shall pay 30 percent of the principal of and the in-
21 terest on the dental education loans of the dentist.

22 (2) Upon completion by the dentist of the sec-
23 ond year of such service, the Secretary shall pay an-
24 other 30 percent of the principal of and the interest
25 on such loans.

1 (3) Upon completion by that individual of a
2 third year of such service, the Secretary shall pay
3 another 25 percent of the principal of and the inter-
4 est on such loans.

5 (c) APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS.—The
6 provisions of subpart III of part D of title III of the Public
7 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 2541 et seq.) shall, except
8 as inconsistent with this section, apply to the program car-
9 ried out under this section in the same manner and to
10 the same extent as such provisions apply to the National
11 Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program.

12 (d) REPORTS.—Not later than 18 months after the
13 date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter,
14 the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Congress
15 a report describing the program carried out under this sec-
16 tion, including statements regarding the following:

17 (1) The number of dentists enrolled in the pro-
18 gram.

19 (2) The number and amount of loan repay-
20 ments.

21 (3) The placement location of loan repayment
22 recipients at facilities described in subsection (a)(1).

23 (4) The default rate and actions required.

24 (5) The amount of outstanding default funds.

1 (6) To the extent that it can be determined, the
2 reason for the default.

3 (7) The demographics of individuals partici-
4 pating in the program.

5 (8) An evaluation of the overall costs and bene-
6 fits of the program.

7 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 (1) The term “dental education loan”—

9 (A) means a loan that is incurred for the
10 cost of attendance (including tuition, other rea-
11 sonable educational expenses, and reasonable
12 living costs) at a school of dentistry; and

13 (B) includes only the portion of the loan
14 that is outstanding on the date the dentist in-
15 volved begins the service specified in the agree-
16 ment under subsection (a).

17 (2) The term “dentist” means a graduate of a
18 school of dentistry who has completed postgraduate
19 training in general or pediatric dentistry.

20 (3) The term “HIV/AIDS” means human im-
21 munodeficiency virus and acquired immune defi-
22 ciency syndrome.

23 (4) The term “school of dentistry” has the
24 meaning given to that term in section 799B of the
25 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 295p).

1 (5) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
2 of Health and Human Services.

3 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry
4 out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated
5 such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years
6 2008 through 2012.

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