

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 560

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish programs to increase the supply of professional nurses and provide educational assistance to nurses, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 25, 1993

Mr. ACKERMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish programs to increase the supply of professional nurses and provide educational assistance to nurses, 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 “Emergency Nurse
5 Shortage Relief Act of 1993”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS FOR PROGRAMS TO INCREASE NUMBER OF**
2 **ACTIVE NURSES.**

3 Subpart I of part A of title VIII of the Public Health
4 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296k et seq.) is amended by adding
5 at the end the following new section:

6 “NURSE RECRUITMENT PROGRAMS

7 “SEC. 823. (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
8 make grants to public and nonprofit private entities to
9 carry out programs—

10 “(1) to promote nursing as a career choice and
11 to educate the public regarding the value of the
12 nursing profession;

13 “(2) to identify students in public secondary
14 schools who show an interest in health care and pro-
15 vide such students with internships in the area of
16 health care;

17 “(3) to promote the nursing profession in public
18 secondary schools; and

19 “(4) to recruit nursing students, by using cre-
20 ative methods, from groups not traditionally well
21 represented in the nursing profession, including
22 men, minorities, and individuals who are pursuing a
23 second career.

24 “(b) APPLICATION.—To receive a grant under this
25 section, a public or private nonprofit entity shall submit

1 an application to the Secretary as the Secretary may re-
2 quire.

3 “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
4 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
5 necessary to carry out this section. Any amounts appro-
6 priated under this section shall remain available until ex-
7 pended.”.

8 **SEC. 3. GRANTS FOR PROGRAMS TO ATTRACT INACTIVE**
9 **NURSES BACK INTO NURSING PROFESSION.**

10 Subpart I of part A of title VIII of the Public Health
11 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296k et seq.), as amended by sec-
12 tion 2 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the
13 end the following new section:

14 “INACTIVE NURSE REACTIVATION AND TRAINING
15 PROGRAMS

16 “SEC. 824. (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
17 make grants to public and private nonprofit entities and
18 schools of nursing to establish or assist programs—

19 “(1) to encourage and assist nurses that are
20 not practicing in the nursing profession to reenter
21 the profession;

22 “(2) to train or educate nurses that are reen-
23 tering the nursing profession and practicing nurses
24 as nurse practitioners or nurse midwives or in areas
25 of needed specialized nursing skills; and

1 the nursing profession as a career choice through
2 changes in traditional wage structures, flexible deliv-
3 ery and scheduling of employment options and bene-
4 fits, and restructuring the role of nurses in the
5 health care facilities; and

6 “(2) to demonstrate innovative methods of pro-
7 viding for advancement in careers in the nursing
8 profession to encourage nurses and nurse assistants
9 to continue education in nursing.

10 “(b) APPLICATION.—To receive a grant under this
11 section, a health care facility shall submit an application
12 to the Secretary as the Secretary may require.

13 “(c) DEFINITION OF HEALTH CARE FACILITY.—For
14 purposes of this section, the term ‘health care facility’
15 means a hospital, public health center, outpatient medical
16 facility, rehabilitation facility, facility for long-term care,
17 or other facility for the provision of health care services.

18 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
19 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
20 necessary to carry out this section. Any amounts appro-
21 priated under this section shall remain available until ex-
22 pended.”.

1 **SEC. 5. PROGRAM FOR LOANS FOR CONTINUED NURSE**
2 **TRAINING AND LOAN FORGIVENESS TO**
3 **NURSING STUDENTS.**

4 Part B of title VIII of the Public Health Service Act
5 (42 U.S.C. 297 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
6 the following new subpart:

7 “Subpart V—Assistance for Nurses After Completion of
8 Nursing School

9 “LOANS FOR CONTINUED NURSE TRAINING

10 “SEC. 849. (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The
11 Secretary may establish a program to insure educational
12 loans to individuals who have attained a degree as a reg-
13 istered nurse for educational expenses related to programs
14 designed to train or educate nurses as nurse practitioners
15 or nurse midwives or in areas of needed specialized nurs-
16 ing skills (as designated by the Secretary under section
17 860(a)(2)).

18 “(b) ORGANIZATION OF PROGRAM.—With respect to
19 the program of Insured Health Education Assistance
20 Loans to Graduate Students established in subpart I of
21 part A of title VII, the provisions of such subpart shall,
22 except as inconsistent with this section, apply to the pro-
23 gram established under subsection (a) in the same manner
24 and to the same extent as such provisions apply to the
25 program established in such subpart I.

1 “(c) BUDGET COMPLIANCE.—The authority of the
2 Secretary to insure loans under this section shall be effec-
3 tive for any fiscal year only to such extent or in such
4 amounts as are provided in appropriation Acts.

5 “STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

6 “SEC. 849A. (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary
7 may carry out a program to enter into agreements with
8 eligible individuals to assist in repaying, in the amounts
9 specified in subsection (c), the eligible educational loans
10 of the eligible individuals.

11 “(b) ELIGIBLE BORROWERS.—An individual shall be
12 eligible to receive assistance under this section if the indi-
13 vidual—

14 “(1)(A) is enrolled as a full-time student in a
15 collegiate school of nursing in a program leading to
16 the achievement of a degree as a registered nurse;
17 and

18 “(B) agrees, to the satisfaction of the Sec-
19 retary, to work full time as a registered nurse in a
20 nursing crisis area; or

21 “(2)(A) has attained a degree as a registered
22 nurse;

23 “(B) is enrolled in a program designed to train
24 or educate the individual as a nurse practitioner or
25 nurse midwife or regarding an area of a needed spe-
26 cialized nursing skill; and

1 “(C) agrees, to the satisfaction of the Sec-
 2 retary, to work full time after completion of the pro-
 3 gram as a registered nurse in a nursing crisis area
 4 in a position that utilizes such training or education.

5 “(c) AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS.—The program estab-
 6 lished by the Secretary under this section may pay to a
 7 holder of loans on behalf of an eligible individual, for each
 8 completed 12-month period of work as agreed to under
 9 paragraph (1)(B) or (2)(C) of subsection (b), an amount
 10 equal to the amount equal to the percentage of the total
 11 of the principal, interest, and related expenses of such
 12 educational loans of the eligible individual determined in
 13 accordance with the following table:

“Years of work completed as agreed to as a full-time registered nurse in a nurs- ing crisis area	Percentage of total of principal, interest, and related expenses of eligible loans repaid under this section for previous 12-month pe- riod	Cumulative percentage of total of principal, interest, and related ex- penses of eligible loans repaid under this section
1	20	20
2	20	40
3	45	85
4	15	100

14 “(d) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE EDUCATIONAL
 15 LOANS.—For purposes of this section the term ‘eligible
 16 educational loan’ means—

17 “(1) for an individual eligible under subsection
 18 (b)(1), any educational loans received before the at-
 19 tainment by the individual of the position of reg-
 20 istered nurse; and

1 “(2) for an individual eligible under subsection
2 (b)(2), any educational loans relating to the program
3 in which the individual participates pursuant to sub-
4 paragraph (B) of such subsection.

5 “(e) BUDGET COMPLIANCE.—The authority of the
6 Secretary to enter into agreements under this section to
7 repay loans shall be effective for any fiscal year only to
8 such extent or in such amounts as are provided in appro-
9 priation Acts.”.

10 **SEC. 6. INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR CORPORATIONS WHICH**
11 **PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR NURSE TRAIN-**
12 **ING.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part IV of sub-
14 chapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of
15 1986 (relating to foreign tax credit, etc.) is amended by
16 adding at the end thereof the following new section:

17 **“SEC. 30. SCHOLARSHIPS PROVIDED BY CORPORATIONS**
18 **FOR NURSE TRAINING.**

19 “(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—In the case of a C
20 corporation, there shall be allowed as a credit against the
21 tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year an
22 amount equal to 20 percent of the amount paid or in-
23 curred by the taxpayer during the taxable year as qualified
24 nursing scholarships.

1 “(b) QUALIFIED NURSING SCHOLARSHIP DE-
2 FINED.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘qualified
3 nursing scholarship’ means any scholarship—

4 “(1) which is excludable from the gross income
5 of the recipient, and

6 “(2) which is received by an individual who is
7 a candidate for a degree as a registered nurse or for
8 a higher nursing degree for purposes of pursuing
9 such a degree.

10 “(c) APPLICATION WITH OTHER CREDITS.—The
11 credit allowed by subsection (a) for any taxable year shall
12 not exceed the excess (if any) of—

13 “(1) the regular tax for the taxable year re-
14 duced by the sum of the credits allowable under sub-
15 part A and sections 27, 28, and 29, over

16 “(2) the tentative minimum tax for the taxable
17 year.”

18 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
19 for such subpart B is amended by adding at the end there-
20 of the following new item:

“Sec. 30. Scholarships provided by corporations for nurse training.”

21 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
22 this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred after
23 the date of the enactment of this Act, in taxable years
24 ending after such date.

1 **SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2 Except as provided in section 6(c), this Act and the
3 amendments made by this Act shall take effect upon the
4 expiration of the 90-day period beginning on the date of
5 the enactment of this Act.

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