

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5875

To amend title VII of the Public Health Service Act to increase retention of the rural health care workforce, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 4, 2021

Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself and Mr. O'HALLERAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To amend title VII of the Public Health Service Act to increase retention of the rural health care workforce, 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 “Rural Health Training  
5       Act of 2021”.

6       **SEC. 2. INCREASING RETENTION OF RURAL HEALTH CARE**  
7       **WORKFORCE.**

8       Subpart II of part C of title III of the Public Health  
9       Service Act (42 U.S.C. 293m) is amended by adding at  
10      the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 749C. INCREASING RETENTION OF RURAL HEALTH**  
2 **CARE WORKFORCE.**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through  
4 the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services  
5 Administration, shall establish a grant program for the  
6 purposes of assisting eligible entities in providing training  
7 to the existing health care workforce of such entities.

8 “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—In order to be eligible to  
9 receive a grant under this section, an entity shall be a  
10 rural hospital, rural health clinic, or community health  
11 center under section 330.

12 “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—In addition to the purposes  
13 specified in section 797, grants awarded under this section  
14 may be used to provide trainee support with respect to  
15 childcare and transportation.

16 “(d) CONDITIONS.—As a condition on the receipt of  
17 a grant under this section, an eligible entity shall agree  
18 to—

19 “(1) limit enrollment in training provided pur-  
20 suant to this section to health care professionals who  
21 are non-physician clinicians and health care support  
22 staff; and

23 “(2) require trainees to serve, as a condition on  
24 support received through the grant, a period of obli-  
25 gated service at the eligible entity of not less than  
26 5 years, beginning on the date on which the trainee

1 first receives the training referred to in subsection  
2 (a).

3 “(e) REPORT.—Not later than 10 years after the date  
4 on which the first grant is awarded under this section,  
5 the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit  
6 to the Congress a report assessing the impact of grants  
7 awarded under this section on health care workforce reten-  
8 tion at eligible entities.

9 “(f) TRAINEE DEFINED.—For purposes of this sec-  
10 tion, the term ‘trainee’ means an individual that is a mem-  
11 ber of an eligible entity’s existing workforce that is receiv-  
12 ing training. Such term does not include students.

13 “(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
14 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
15 \$100,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2022 through  
16 2032.”.

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