

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 801

To establish a grant program to support schools of medicine and schools of osteopathic medicine in underserved areas.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 4, 2021

Mr. COSTA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To establish a grant program to support schools of medicine and schools of osteopathic medicine in underserved areas.

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 “Expanding Medical
5 Education Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS FOR SCHOOLS OF MEDICINE AND SCHOOLS**
2 **OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE IN UNDER-**
3 **SERVED AREAS.**

4 Subpart II of part C of title VII of the Public Health
5 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 293m et seq.) is amended by add-
6 ing at the end the following:

7 **“SEC. 749C. GRANTS FOR SCHOOLS OF MEDICINE AND**
8 **SCHOOLS OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE IN UN-**
9 **DERSERVED AREAS.**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through
11 the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services
12 Administration, may award grants to institutions of high-
13 er education (including consortiums of such institutions)
14 for the establishment, improvement, or expansion of a
15 school of medicine or osteopathic medicine, or a branch
16 campus of a school of medicine or osteopathic medicine.

17 “(b) PRIORITY.—In selecting grant recipients under
18 this section, the Secretary shall give priority to any insti-
19 tution of higher education (or consortium of such institu-
20 tions) that—

21 “(1) proposes to use the grant for the establish-
22 ment of a school of medicine or osteopathic medi-
23 cine, or a branch campus of a school of medicine or
24 osteopathic medicine, in an area—

25 “(A) in which no other such school is
26 based; and

1 “(B) that is a medically underserved com-
2 munity or a health professional shortage area;
3 or

4 “(2) is a minority-serving institution described
5 in section 371(a) of the Higher Education Act of
6 1965.

7 “(c) CONSIDERATIONS.—In awarding grants under
8 this section, the Secretary, to the extent practicable, may
9 ensure equitable distribution of awards among the geo-
10 graphical regions of the United States.

11 “(d) USE OF FUNDS.—An institution of higher edu-
12 cation (or a consortium of such institutions)—

13 “(1) shall use grant amounts received under
14 this section to—

15 “(A) recruit, enroll, and retain students,
16 including individuals who are from disadvan-
17 taged backgrounds (including racial and ethnic
18 groups underrepresented among medical stu-
19 dents and health professions), individuals from
20 rural and underserved areas, low-income indi-
21 viduals, and first generation college students, at
22 a school of medicine or osteopathic medicine or
23 branch campus of a school of medicine or osteo-
24 pathic medicine; and

1 “(B) develop, implement, and expand cur-
2 riculum that emphasizes care for rural and un-
3 derserved populations, including accessible and
4 culturally and linguistically appropriate care
5 and services, at such school or branch campus;
6 and

7 “(2) may use grant amounts received under this
8 section to—

9 “(A) plan and construct—

10 “(i) a school of medicine or osteo-
11 pathic medicine in an area in which no
12 other such school is based; or

13 “(ii) a branch campus of a school of
14 medicine or osteopathic medicine in an
15 area in which no other such school is
16 based;

17 “(B) plan, develop, and meet criteria for
18 accreditation for a school of medicine or osteo-
19 pathic medicine or branch campus of a school
20 of medicine or osteopathic medicine;

21 “(C) hire faculty, including faculty from
22 racial and ethnic groups who are underrep-
23 resented among the medical and other health
24 professions, and other staff to serve at such a
25 school or branch campus;

1 “(D) support educational programs at such
2 a school or branch campus;

3 “(E) modernize and expand infrastructure
4 at such a school or branch campus; and

5 “(F) support other activities that the Sec-
6 retary determines further the establishment,
7 improvement, or expansion of a school of medi-
8 cine or osteopathic medicine or branch campus
9 of a school of medicine or osteopathic medicine.

10 “(e) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant
11 under subsection (a), an institution of higher education
12 (or a consortium of such institutions), shall submit an ap-
13 plication to the Secretary at such time, in such manner,
14 and containing such information as the Secretary may re-
15 quire, including a description of the institution’s or con-
16 sortium’s planned activities described in subsection (d).

17 “(f) REPORTING.—

18 “(1) REPORTS FROM ENTITIES.—Each institu-
19 tion of higher education, or consortium of such insti-
20 tutions, awarded a grant under this section shall
21 submit an annual report to the Secretary on the ac-
22 tivities conducted under such grant, and other infor-
23 mation as the Secretary may require.

24 “(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 5
25 years after the date of enactment of this section and

1 every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary shall submit
2 to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and
3 Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on En-
4 ergy and Commerce of the House of Representatives
5 a report that provides a summary of the activities
6 and outcomes associated with grants made under
7 this section. Such reports shall include—

8 “(A) a list of awardees, including their pri-
9 mary geographic location, and location of any
10 school of medicine or osteopathic medicine, or a
11 branch campus of school of medicine or osteo-
12 pathic medicine that was established, improved,
13 or expanded under this program;

14 “(B) the total number of students (includ-
15 ing the number of students from racial and eth-
16 nic groups underrepresented among medical
17 students and health professions, low-income
18 students, and first generation college students)
19 who—

20 “(i) are enrolled at or who have grad-
21 uated from any school of medicine or os-
22 teopathic medicine, or a branch campus of
23 school of medicine or osteopathic medicine,
24 that was established, improved, or ex-
25 panded under this program, deidentified

1 and disaggregated by race, ethnicity, age,
2 sex, geographic region, disability status,
3 and other relevant factors, to the extent
4 such information is available; and

5 “(ii) who subsequently participate in
6 an accredited internship or medical resi-
7 dency program upon graduation from any
8 school of medicine or osteopathic medicine,
9 or a branch campus of a school of medicine
10 or osteopathic medicine, that was estab-
11 lished, improved, or expanded under this
12 program, deidentified and disaggregated by
13 race, ethnicity, age, sex, geographic region,
14 disability status, medical specialty pursued,
15 and other relevant factors, to the extent
16 such information is available;

17 “(C) the effects of such program on the
18 health care provider workforce, including any
19 impact on demographic representation
20 disaggregated by race, ethnicity, and sex, and
21 the fields or specialties pursued by students
22 who have graduated from any school of medi-
23 cine or osteopathic medicine, or a branch cam-
24 pus of school of medicine or osteopathic medi-

1 cine, that was established, improved, or ex-
2 panded under this program;

3 “(D) the effects of such program on health
4 care access in underserved areas, including
5 medically underserved communities and health
6 professional shortage areas; and

7 “(E) recommendations for improving the
8 program described in this section, and any
9 other considerations as the Secretary deter-
10 mines appropriate.

11 “(3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary
12 shall make reports submitted under paragraph (2)
13 publicly available on the internet website of the De-
14 partment of Health and Human Services.

15 “(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16 “(1) BRANCH CAMPUS.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘branch
18 campus’, with respect to a school of medicine or
19 osteopathic medicine, means an additional loca-
20 tion of such school that is geographically apart
21 and independent of the main campus, at which
22 the school offers at least 50 percent of the pro-
23 gram leading to a degree of doctor of medicine
24 or doctor of osteopathy that is offered at the
25 main campus.

“(B) INDEPENDENCE FROM MAIN CAMPUS.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the location of a school described in such subparagraph shall be considered to be independent of the main campus described in such subparagraph if the location—

“(i) is permanent in nature;

“(ii) offers courses in educational programs leading to a degree, certificate, or other recognized educational credential;

“(iii) has its own faculty and administrative or supervisory organization; and

“(iv) has its own budgetary and hiring authority.

“(2) FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT.—

The term ‘first generation college student’ has the meaning given such term in section 402A(h)(3) of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

“(3) HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREA.—The term ‘health professional shortage area’ has the meaning given such term in section 332(a).

“(4) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—

The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the meaning given such term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

1 “(5) MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED COMMUNITY.—

2 The term ‘medically underserved community’ has the

3 meaning given such term in section 799B(6).

4 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To

5 carry out this section, there is authorized to be appro-

6 priated \$1,000,000,000, to remain available until ex-

7 pended.”.

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