

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8022

To address barriers immigrants and refugees face to entering the health care workforce, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 9, 2022

Mr. SMITH of Washington (for himself and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To address barriers immigrants and refugees face to entering the 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 “International Medical
5 Graduates Assistance Act of 2022”.

1 **TITLE I—INCENTIVIZING STATES**
2 **TO ALLOW TRANSITIONAL**
3 **PRACTICE BY INTER-**
4 **NATIONAL MEDICAL GRAD-**
5 **UATES**

6 **SEC. 101. GRANTS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
8 Human Services may award grants to States to develop
9 and implement programs to allow eligible international
10 medical graduates, for a period of up to 4 years while com-
11 pleting steps 1 and 2 of the United States Medical Licens-
12 ing Examination, to practice medicine in the respective
13 State under the supervision of a fully licensed physician.

14 (b) DEFINITION.—In this section:

15 (1) The term “eligible international medical
16 graduate” means an individual who—

17 (A) graduated from a school of medicine
18 outside of the United States or Canada; and

19 (B) is—

20 (i) lawfully admitted for permanent
21 residence;

22 (ii) admitted as a refugee under sec-
23 tion 207 of the Immigration and Nation-
24 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1157);

1 (iii) granted asylum under section 208
2 of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1158); or

3 (iv) an immigrant otherwise author-
4 ized to be employed in the United States.

5 (2) The term “State” includes the District of
6 Columbia and any territory of the United States.

7 **SEC. 102. EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN ELIGIBLE INTER-**
8 **NATIONAL MEDICAL GRADUATES FROM AP-**
9 **PLICATION OF FTE CAP.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1886(h)(4)(H) of the So-
11 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(h)(4)(H)) is amend-
12 ed by adding at the end the following new clause:

13 “(vii) EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN FOR-
14 EIGN MEDICAL GRADUATES FROM COUNT-
15 ING TOWARDS CAP.—

16 “(I) IN GENERAL.—For purposes
17 of applying the limit described in sub-
18 paragraph (F), a specified resident
19 (as defined in subclause (II)) shall not
20 be taken into account in determining
21 the total number of full-time equiva-
22 lent residents before application of
23 weighting factors (as determined
24 under this paragraph) with respect to

1 a hospital’s approved medical resi-
2 dency training program.

3 “(II) SPECIFIED RESIDENT DE-
4 FINED.—For purposes of subclause
5 (I), the term ‘specified resident’
6 means an eligible international med-
7 ical graduate (as defined in section
8 101(b) of the Pathways to Health
9 Care Act of 2022) who is a resident
10 in a hospital’s approved medical resi-
11 dency training program, but only if
12 such hospital—

13 “(aa) has in effect an agree-
14 ment with a Federally qualified
15 health center under which resi-
16 dents training in such program
17 spend time training at such cen-
18 ter;

19 “(bb) is located in a State
20 that allows such eligible inter-
21 national medical graduates to
22 practice medicine as described in
23 section 101(a) of such Act; and

24 “(cc) predominantly serves
25 medically underserved popu-

1 lations (as defined in section
2 330(b)(3)(A) of the Public
3 Health Service Act), as deter-
4 mined by the Secretary.”.

5 (b) STUDY ON REMOVAL OF RESIDENT CAP.—Not
6 later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of
7 this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services
8 shall submit to Congress a report on the possibility of re-
9 moving the resident cap under section 1886(h)(4)(F) of
10 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(h)(4)(F)).

11 **TITLE II—ASSISTING INTER-**
12 **NATIONAL MEDICAL GRAD-**
13 **UATES DURING PURSUIT OF**
14 **LICENSURE**

15 **SEC. 201. GRANTS.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
17 Human Services may award grants to States to provide
18 assistance to eligible international medical graduates while
19 such graduates are completing steps 1 and 2 of the United
20 States Medical Licensing Examination.

21 (b) COVERED ASSISTANCE.—Assistance provided to
22 an eligible international medical graduate pursuant to this
23 section may include paying the costs of the United States
24 Medical Licensing Examination, career counseling, case
25 management, classes in English as a second language, as-

1 sistance in diploma verification, and test preparation
2 courses.

3 (c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the terms “eligible
4 international medical graduate” and “State” have the
5 meanings given to those terms in section 101.

