

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4110

To revise and extend health workforce programs under title VII of the
Public Health Service Act.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 17, 2026

Mr. REED (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Edu-
cation, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To revise and extend health workforce programs under title
VII of the Public Health Service Act.

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 “Educating Medical
5 Professionals and Optimizing Workforce Efficiency and
6 Readiness for Health Act” or the “EMPOWER for Health
7 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS**
2 **WORKFORCE PROGRAMS.**

3 Title VII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
4 292 et seq.) is amended—

5 (1) in section 736(i) (42 U.S.C. 293(i)), by
6 striking “\$23,711,000 for each of fiscal years 2021
7 through 2025” and inserting “\$28,422,000 for each
8 of fiscal years 2026 through 2030”;

9 (2) in section 740 (42 U.S.C. 293d)—

10 (A) in subsection (a), by striking
11 “\$51,470,000 for each of fiscal years 2021
12 through 2025” and inserting “\$55,014,000 for
13 each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030”;

14 (B) in subsection (b), by striking “appro-
15 priated, \$1,190,000 for each of fiscal years
16 2021 through 2025” and inserting “appro-
17 priated \$2,310,000 for each of fiscal years
18 2026 through 2030”;

19 (C) in subsection (c), by striking
20 “\$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021
21 through 2025” and inserting “\$16,000,000 for
22 each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030”; and

23 (D) in subsection (d), by striking “Sep-
24 tember 30, 2025” and inserting “September 30,
25 2030”;

1 (3) in section 747(c)(1) (42 U.S.C. 293k(c)(1)),
2 by striking “\$48,924,000 for each of fiscal years
3 2021 through 2025” and inserting “\$49,924,000 for
4 each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030”;

5 (4) in section 748(f) (42 U.S.C. 293k–2(f)), by
6 striking “\$28,531,000 for each of fiscal years 2021
7 through 2025” and inserting “\$42,673,000 for each
8 of fiscal years 2026 through 2030”;

9 (5) in section 751(j)(1) (42 U.S.C. 294a(j)(1)),
10 by striking “\$41,250,000 for each of fiscal years
11 2021 through 2025” and inserting “\$47,000,000 for
12 each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030”;

13 (6) in section 753(d) (42 U.S.C. 294e(d)), by
14 striking “\$40,737,000 for each of fiscal years 2021
15 through 2025” and inserting “\$48,245,000 for each
16 of fiscal years 2026 through 2030”;

17 (7) in section 761(e)(1)(A) (42 U.S.C.
18 294n(e)(1)(A)), by striking “2021 through 2025”
19 and inserting “2026 through 2030”;

20 (8) in section 762(i) (42 U.S.C. 294o(i)), by
21 striking “September 30, 2023” and inserting “Sep-
22 tember 30, 2030”;

23 (9) in section 770(a) (42 U.S.C. 295e(a)), by
24 striking “\$17,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021

1 through 2025” and inserting “\$18,000,000 for each
2 of fiscal years 2026 through 2030”;

3 (10) in section 775(e) (42 U.S.C. 295f(e)), by
4 striking “is authorized to be appropriated such sums
5 as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2021
6 through 2025.” and inserting the following: “are au-
7 thorized to be appropriated for each of fiscal years
8 2026 through 2030—

9 “(1) to carry out subsection (c)(1)(A),
10 \$5,000,000; and

11 “(2) to carry out subsection (c)(1)(B),
12 \$5,000,000.”; and

13 (11) in section 776(i) (42 U.S.C. 295f–1(i)), by
14 striking “2023 through 2025” and inserting “2026
15 through 2030”.

16 **SEC. 3. INVESTMENT IN TOMORROW’S PEDIATRIC HEALTH**
17 **CARE WORKFORCE.**

18 Section 775 of the Public Health Service Act (42
19 U.S.C. 295f) is amended—

20 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “be employed
21 full-time” and inserting “perform full-time service”;

22 (2) in subsection (b)—

23 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “in an
24 area with a shortage of the specified pediatric
25 subspecialty that has a sufficient pediatric pop-

ulation to support such pediatric subspecialty,
 as determined by the Secretary” and inserting
 “to underserved children or in an area with a
 shortage of the specified pediatric sub-
 specialty”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(B)—

(i) by striking “employment” and in-
 serting “service”; and

(ii) by striking “an area or” and in-
 serting “a”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking the subsection designation
 and heading and all that follows through the
 paragraph designation and heading in para-
 graph (1) and inserting the following:

“(c) ELIGIBILITY.—

“(1) DEFINITION OF QUALIFIED HEALTH PRO-
 FESSIONAL.—In this section:”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause

(i), by inserting “under this section”
 after “contracts”; and

1 (II) in clause (ii), by striking
 2 “subparagraph (B)” and inserting
 3 “clause (i)”; and

4 (ii) in subparagraph (B), in the mat-
 5 ter preceding clause (i), by inserting
 6 “under this section” after “contracts”; and
 7 (C) in paragraph (2)—

8 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
 9 graph (A), by striking “this subsection
 10 with an eligible individual” and inserting
 11 “this section with a qualified health profes-
 12 sional”;

13 (ii) in subparagraph (A)—

14 (I) by striking “individual” and
 15 inserting “qualified health profes-
 16 sional”; and

17 (II) by striking “medically under-
 18 served population” and inserting
 19 “medically underserved pediatric pop-
 20 ulation (including children enrolled in
 21 the Medicaid program under title XIX
 22 of the Social Security Act)”; and

23 (iii) in each of subparagraphs (B) and
 24 (C), by striking “individual” and inserting
 25 “qualified health professional”;

1 (4) by redesignating subsection (e) (as amended
2 by section 2(10)) as subsection (f); and

3 (5) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(e) FULL-TIME SERVICE OBLIGATIONS.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to qualified
7 health professionals described in subparagraphs
8 (A)(ii) and (B) of subsection (c)(1) who enter into
9 contracts under this section, the Secretary shall es-
10 tablish requirements for full-time service that are
11 consistent with the practice standards, including re-
12 search and teaching obligations, of the applicable pe-
13 diatric medical subspecialty, pediatric surgical spe-
14 cialty, or child and adolescent mental and behavioral
15 health care field in which such qualified health pro-
16 fessional practices.

17 “(2) FELLOWSHIPS OR RESIDENCIES.—With re-
18 spect to qualified health professionals described in
19 subsection (c)(1)(A)(i), the Secretary shall establish
20 requirements for full-time service that are consistent
21 with the requirements of the accrediting body for the
22 applicable residency or fellowship for full-time serv-
23 ice.”.

1 **SEC. 4. AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS.**

2 Section 751 of the Public Health Service Act (42
3 U.S.C. 294a) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (c)(1)(G), by striking “high
5 school” and inserting “pre-collegiate”; and

6 (2) in subsection (h)(1)—

7 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “12
8 years” and inserting “2 award cycles”; and

9 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “6
10 years” and inserting “1 award cycle”.

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