



AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To amend the Public Health Service Act to support and stabilize the existing nursing workforce and establish programs to increase the number of nurses.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—119th Cong., 2d Sess.**S.4110**

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

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Ms. BLUNT
ROCHESTER

Viz:

1 At the appropriate place, insert the following:

2 **SEC. ____ . STATE AND REGIONAL NURSING WORKFORCE**
3 **CENTERS.**

4 Title VII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
5 292 et seq.) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating part G (42 U.S.C. 295j et
7 seq.) as part H; and

8 (2) by inserting after part F the following new
9 part:

1 **“PART G—NURSING WORKFORCE CENTERS**

2 **“SEC. 785. STATE AND REGIONAL NURSING WORKFORCE**

3 **CENTER DATA COLLECTION PILOT PRO-**

4 **GRAM.**

5 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry out a
6 3-year pilot program under which the Secretary awards
7 grants, or enters into contracts with, eligible entities to
8 establish new or enhance existing State- and regional
9 based nursing workforce centers, evaluate the impact of
10 State-and regional based nursing workforce centers on
11 outcomes, and assess the feasibility of nursing workforce
12 public-private partnerships. The Secretary shall begin im-
13 plementation of such pilot program not later than 1 year
14 after the date of enactment of the EMPOWER for Health
15 Act.

16 “(b) AWARD TERMS.—

17 “(1) TERM.—The term of a grant or contract
18 awarded under the pilot program under subsection
19 (a) shall be 3 years.

20 “(2) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—As a condi-
21 tion on receipt of a grant or contract under the pilot
22 program under subsection (a), the Secretary shall
23 require the applicant to agree, with respect to costs
24 to be incurred by the applicant in carrying out the
25 activities funded through the grant or contract, to
26 make available non-Federal contributions (in cash or

1 in kind) toward such costs in an amount that is
2 equal to not less than \$1 for each \$4 of Federal
3 funds provided through the grant or contract. Such
4 contributions may be made directly or through dona-
5 tions from public or private entities.

6 “(c) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant
7 or contract under this section, an entity shall be—

8 “(1) a State agency;

9 “(2) a State board of nursing;

10 “(3) a nonprofit (as defined in section 801); or

11 “(4) a school of nursing (as defined in section
12 801).

13 “(d) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.—In awarding
14 grants or contracts under this section, the Secretary shall
15 ensure, to the greatest extent possible, that such grants
16 and contracts are equitably distributed among the geo-
17 graphical regions of the United States.

18 “(e) PRIORITY.—In selecting the eligible entity to be
19 awarded a grant or contract under this section for a nurs-
20 ing workforce center in a particular State, the Secretary
21 shall give priority to eligible entities that—

22 “(1) propose to provide statewide services;

23 “(2) have expertise in the State’s nursing work-
24 force issues;

1 “(3) have a history of convening entities to ad-
2 dress nursing workforce issues; and

3 “(4) have partnerships with entities that tradi-
4 tionally educate or employ the State’s nurses.

5 “(f) USE OF FUNDS.—A recipient of a grant or con-
6 tract under this section may use such award for purposes
7 of—

8 “(1) collecting, analyzing, and reporting data
9 regarding nursing workforce training programs
10 under this Act to the National Center for Health
11 Care Workforce Analysis and to the public; and

12 “(2) providing technical assistance to local and
13 regional entities on the collection, analysis, and re-
14 porting of data and making recommendations to im-
15 prove nursing workforce capacity.

16 “(g) REPORTS.—Not later than 2 years after the date
17 on which the first grant or contract is awarded under the
18 pilot program under subsection (a), and annually there-
19 after, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on
20 the grants and contracts awarded under such pilot pro-
21 gram during the year covered by the report. Each such
22 report shall include—

23 “(1) a description of initiatives to study the
24 unique characteristics of State nursing workforces,
25 and efforts to increase the number of new nurses,

1 recruit nurses to the nursing profession, and retain
2 nurses in the workplace;

3 “(2) impact data on nurses served by nursing
4 workforce centers, including demographic informa-
5 tion of the individuals served, the number of such in-
6 dividuals, and the types of services provided;

7 “(3) the effectiveness of establishing formal
8 public-private relationships for purposes of under-
9 standing the national nursing workforce through im-
10 proved data collection and standardization;

11 “(4) data on continuous evaluation and quality
12 improvement, and other relevant data as determined
13 by the Secretary; and

14 “(5) the Secretary’s recommendations and best
15 practices for—

16 “(A) reducing shortages among different
17 nursing specialties;

18 “(B) reducing shortages in rural and un-
19 derserved areas;

20 “(C) improving geographical distribution of
21 the nursing workforce; and

22 “(D) reducing shortages among different
23 types of nursing employers.

24 “(h) DATA COLLECTION.—The recipient of a grant
25 or contract under this section shall provide the Secretary

1 with such information (including data and assurances), at
2 such time, and in such manner as the Secretary may re-
3 quire in order to prepare the report under paragraph (1).

4 “(i) FUNDING.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appro-
6 priated to carry out this title, the Secretary may use
7 up to \$1,500,000 for each of fiscal years and 2027
8 through 2029 for purposes of carrying out this sec-
9 tion.

10 “(2) LIMITATION.—Paragraph (1) shall not
11 apply for a fiscal year unless the amount made avail-
12 able to carry out this title for such fiscal year ex-
13 ceeds the amount appropriated to carry out such
14 title for fiscal year 2026.”.

15 **SEC. ____ . STATE AND REGIONAL CENTERS FOR HEALTH**
16 **WORKFORCE ANALYSIS.**

17 (a) EXPANSION OF COVERED PROGRAMS.—Section
18 761(c)(1)(A) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
19 294n(c)(1)(A)) is amended by striking “under this title”
20 and inserting “under this Act”.

21 (b) ANALYSIS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Sec-
22 tion 761(c) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
23 294n(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(3) MINIMUM REQUIREMENT.—At least one
2 grant or contract awarded under this subsection may
3 be awarded to an eligible entity that demonstrates—

4 “(A) a mission to advance and support the
5 nursing workforce;

6 “(B) experience and expertise in guiding
7 State-level nursing workforce centers;

8 “(C) experience in working with nursing
9 workforce data;

10 “(D) expertise in analytical methods and
11 tools appropriate for nursing workforce re-
12 search; and

13 “(E) awareness of emerging topics, issues,
14 and trends related to the nursing workforce.

15 “(4) ANALYSIS AND REPORTING.—Analysis and
16 reporting carried out pursuant to a grant or con-
17 tract under this subsection may include—

18 “(A) collaborating with nursing workforce
19 centers to produce or deliver educational mate-
20 rials and research with respect to the supply of
21 nurses, the demand for nurses, and the capacity
22 to educate and train the nursing workforce;

23 “(B) evaluating the programs and activi-
24 ties of the nursing workforce centers overall;

1 “(C) developing evidence-based or evi-
2 dence-informed strategies and best practices to
3 alleviate nursing workforce shortages across
4 States and regions; and

5 “(D) conducting rapid data analysis and
6 short-term, issue-specific research.

7 “(5) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Technical as-
8 sistance provided pursuant to this subsection may
9 include—

10 “(A) providing technical assistance to
11 nursing workforce centers on the collection,
12 analysis, and reporting of standardized supply,
13 demand, and education and training data to in-
14 form analysis conducted pursuant to this sub-
15 section;

16 “(B) collaborating with nursing workforce
17 centers to identify and deliver evidence-based or
18 evidence-informed strategies to alleviate nursing
19 shortages and the maldistribution of nurses;

20 “(C) providing online and in-person train-
21 ing opportunities for nurses and other staff at
22 nursing workforce centers; and

23 “(D) developing and maintaining a website
24 that—

1 “(i) is accessible to grant and contract
2 recipients under section 785 and this sec-
3 tion;

4 “(ii) supports resources for the provi-
5 sion of technical assistance under this sec-
6 tion, such as—

7 “(I) evidence-based or evidence-
8 informed educational materials, tools,
9 recent findings of interest, and links
10 to relevant resources; and

11 “(II) logistical and administrative
12 information, such as online trainings,
13 webinars, and publications; and

14 “(iii) includes a publicly accessible re-
15 pository of webinars, tools, and resources.

16 “(6) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term
17 ‘nursing workforce center’ means a nursing work-
18 force center funded under section 785.”.