AMENDMENT NO. __________  Calendar No. ______

Purpose: To improve the program of continuing educational support for health professionals serving in rural and underserved communities.


S. 3799

To prepare for, and respond to, existing viruses, emerging new threats, and pandemics.

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. ROSEN (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)

Viz:

1. At the appropriate place in subtitle C of title II, insert the following:

   SEC. 2. CONTINUING EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS SERVING IN RURAL AND UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES.

   Section 752 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 294b) is amended—

   (1) in the section heading, by inserting “RURAL AND” after “SERVING IN”;

   (2) in subsection (a)—
(A) by striking "shall make grants to, and enter into contracts with, eligible entities" and inserting "as appropriate, shall make grants to, and enter into contracts with, eligible entities to support access to accredited continuing medical education for primary care physicians and health care providers at community health centers or rural health clinics to improve and increase access to care for patients in rural and medically underserved areas. Such grants or contracts may be used";

(B) by striking "faculty members" and inserting "health care providers"; and

(C) by inserting "increase primary care physician and health care provider knowledge," after "practice environment,";

(3) in subsection (b), by inserting "such as a community health center or rural health clinic" before the period;

(4) in subsection (c), by striking "by require." and inserting the following: "may require, including—";

"(1) a description of how participation in activities funded under this section will help improve access to, and quality of, health care services and
training needs of primary care physicians and health
care providers; and

“(2) a plan for providing peer-to-peer training,
as appropriate.”;

(5) by amending subsection (d) to read as fol-

“(d) Use of Funds.—

“(1) In general.—An eligible entity shall use
amounts awarded under a grant or contract under
this section to provide innovative supportive activi-
ties to enhance education for primary care physi-
cians and health care providers described in sub-
section (a) through distance learning, continuing
educational activities, collaborative conferences, and
electronic and telelearning activities, with priority
for primary care providers who are seeking addi-
tional education in specialty fields such as infectious
disease, endocrinology, pediatrics, mental health and
substance use disorders, pain management, geri-
atries, and other areas, as appropriate, in order to—

“(A) improve retention of primary care
physicians and health care providers and in-
crease access to specialty health care services
for patients; and
“(B) support access to the integration of specialty care through existing service delivery locations and care across settings.

“(2) CLARIFICATION.—Entities may use amounts awarded under a grant or contract under this section for continuing educational activities that include a clinical training component, including in-person patient care, in the respective community health center or rural health clinic, with the primary care physician or health care provider at such site and the clinical specialist from whom such additional training is being provided.”;

(6) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (g);

(7) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—An entity that revives a grant or contract under this section shall use not more than 5 percent of the amounts received under the grant or contract under this section for administrative expenses.

“(f) NON-DUPLICATION OF EFFORT.—The Secretary shall ensure that activities under this section do not unnecessarily duplicate efforts of other programs overseen
by the Health Resources and Services Administration, includ-
ing activities described in section 330N.”; and

(8) in subsection (g), as so redesignated, by striking “$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years
2010 through 2014, and such sums as may be neces-
ssary for each subsequent fiscal year” and inserting
“such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal
years 2022 through 2025”.