

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5770

To amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the physician manpower in the areas of primary care, psychiatric care, and emergency medicine in federally designated physician shortage areas, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 12, 2006

Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the physician manpower in the areas of primary care, psychiatric care, and emergency medicine in federally designated physician shortage areas, 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 “United States Physi-
5 cian Shortage Elimination Act of 2006”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The average life expectancy in the United
2 States has increased to 80 years of age, causing an
3 ever-increasing demand for medical care.

4 (2) In 1975, United States medical schools
5 graduated approximately 12,716 physicians. Half of
6 these physicians entered programs of medical studies
7 as graduates of United States colleges and univer-
8 sities. The other half consisted of graduates of for-
9 eign institutions admitted to United States medical
10 schools under the J-1 Visa Program.

11 (3) Presently, the number of applicants, foreign
12 and domestic, seeking admission to United States
13 medical schools has decreased to approximately
14 37,364.

15 (4) During the last 20 years, median tuition
16 and fees at medical schools have increased by 745
17 percent (270 percent adjusted for inflation) in pri-
18 vate schools and by 876 percent (318 percent ad-
19 justed for inflation) in public schools.

20 (5) Physicians who graduated from medical
21 schools in the 1970's will be leaving the profession
22 within the next 10 years, causing a decrease of 30
23 percent in the supply of physicians, while the popu-
24 lation will have increased by 24 percent.

1 (6) The Indiana State Medical Licensing Board
2 has estimated that in 20 years there will be 200,000
3 fewer physicians available to deliver medical services.

4 (7) In 2005, the Council on Graduate Medical
5 Education stated in a report to Congress that there
6 will be a shortage of not fewer than 90,000 full-time
7 physicians by 2020.

8 (8) A decrease in Federal spending to carry out
9 programs authorized by title VII of the Public
10 Health Service Act threatens the viability of pro-
11 grams used to solve the problem of inadequate ac-
12 cess to health care.

13 (9) A continuing decline in the number of fam-
14 ily physicians may lead to renewed shortages of safe-
15 ty net and rural physicians.

16 (10) There is a declining ability to recruit
17 qualified medical students from rural and under-
18 served areas, coupled with greater difficulty on the
19 part of community health centers and other clinics
20 to attract adequate personnel.

21 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS MEDICAL**
22 **SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**

23 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—Subpart III of part D
24 of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
25 2541 et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) in the heading by inserting “, **Medical**
2 **School Scholarship Program,**” after
3 **“Scholarship Program”**; and

4 (2) by inserting after section 338A the fol-
5 lowing:

6 **“SEC. 338A-1. NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS MEDICAL**
7 **SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**

8 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-
10 lish a program to be known as the National Health
11 Service Corps Medical School Scholarship Program
12 (in this subpart referred to as the ‘Medical School
13 Scholarship Program’ to ensure, with respect to the
14 provision of primary health services, including pri-
15 mary care, psychiatric care, and emergency medical
16 services, pursuant to section 331(a)(2), an adequate
17 supply of physicians. The purpose of the program is
18 to train an additional 5000 medical students each
19 year.

20 “(2) RELATIONSHIP TO NATIONAL HEALTH
21 SERVICE CORPS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.—Scholar-
22 ships provided under this section are intended to
23 complement, and not take the place of, scholarships
24 provided to students enrolled in courses of study
25 leading to a degree in medicine or osteopathic medi-

1 cine under the National Health Service Corps Schol-
2 arship Program authorized by section 338A.

3 “(b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to participate in
4 the Medical School Scholarship Program, an individual
5 must—

6 “(1) be accepted for enrollment as a full-time
7 student—

8 “(A) in an accredited (as determined by
9 the Secretary) educational institution in a
10 State; and

11 “(B) in a course of study, or program, of-
12 ferred by such institution leading to a degree in
13 medicine or osteopathic medicine;

14 “(2) be eligible for, or hold, an appointment as
15 a commissioned officer in the Regular or Reserve
16 Corps of the Service or be eligible for selection for
17 civilian service in the Corps;

18 “(3) submit an application to participate in the
19 Medical School Scholarship Program; and

20 “(4) sign and submit to the Secretary, at the
21 time of submittal of such application, a written con-
22 tract (described in subsection (f)) to accept payment
23 of a scholarship and to serve (in accordance with
24 this subpart) for the applicable period of obligated
25 service in a health professional shortage area.

1 “(c) APPLICATION, CONTRACT, AND INFORMATION
2 REQUIREMENTS.—

3 “(1) SUMMARY AND INFORMATION.—In dis-
4 seminating application forms and contract forms to
5 individuals desiring to participate in the Medical
6 School Scholarship Program, the Secretary shall in-
7 clude with such forms—

8 “(A) a fair summary of the rights and li-
9 abilities of an individual whose application is
10 approved (and whose contract is accepted) by
11 the Secretary, including in the summary a clear
12 explanation of the damages to which the United
13 States is entitled under section 338E in the
14 case of the individual’s breach of the contract;
15 and

16 “(B) information respecting meeting a
17 service obligation through private practice
18 under an agreement under section 338D and
19 such other information as may be necessary for
20 the individual to understand the individual’s
21 prospective participation in the Medical School
22 Scholarship Program and service in the Corps,
23 including a statement of all factors considered
24 in approving applications for participation in

1 the Program and in making assignments for
2 participants in the Program.

3 “(2) UNDERSTANDABILITY AND CLARITY.—The
4 application form, contract form, and all other infor-
5 mation furnished by the Secretary under this sub-
6 part shall be written in a manner calculated to be
7 understood by the average individual applying to
8 participate in the Medical School Scholarship Pro-
9 gram.

10 “(3) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary shall make
11 such application forms, contract forms, and other in-
12 formation available to individuals desiring to partici-
13 pate in the Medical School Scholarship Program on
14 a date sufficiently early to ensure that such individ-
15 uals have adequate time to carefully review and
16 evaluate such forms and information.

17 “(4) RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION.—

18 “(A) DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS.—The
19 Secretary shall distribute to schools of medi-
20 cine, schools of osteopathic medicine, and med-
21 ical organizations participating in a medical
22 pipeline program described in section 749 mate-
23 rials providing information on the Medical
24 School Scholarship Program and shall encour-
25 age the schools and organizations to dissemi-

1 nate the materials to students of the schools
2 and students being recruited through the med-
3 ical pipeline program.

4 “(B) RETENTION OF HEALTH PROFES-
5 SIONALS IN SHORTAGE AREAS.—

6 “(i) HEALTH PROFESSIONALS NEAR-
7 ING COMPLETION OF OBLIGATED SERV-
8 ICE.—In the case of any health profes-
9 sional whose period of obligated service
10 under the Medical School Scholarship Pro-
11 gram is nearing completion, the Secretary
12 shall encourage the individual to remain in
13 a health professional shortage area and to
14 continue providing primary health services.

15 “(ii) HEALTH PROFESSIONALS MAK-
16 ING A TRANSITION TO PRIVATE PRAC-
17 TICE.—During the period in which a
18 health professional is planning and making
19 the transition to private practice from obli-
20 gated service under the Medical School
21 Scholarship Program, the Secretary may
22 provide assistance to the professional re-
23 garding such transition if the professional
24 is remaining in a health professional short-

1 age area and is continuing to provide pri-
2 mary health services.

3 “(C) OPTIONS TO ENCOURAGE HEALTH
4 PROFESSIONALS TO REMAIN IN HEALTH PRO-
5 FESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREAS.—In the case of
6 entities to which participants in the Medical
7 School Scholarship Program are assigned under
8 section 333, the Secretary shall encourage the
9 entities to provide options with respect to as-
10 sisting the participants in remaining in the
11 health professional shortage areas involved, and
12 in continuing to provide primary health serv-
13 ices, after the period of obligated service under
14 the Medical School Scholarship Program is
15 completed. The options with respect to which
16 the Secretary provides such encouragement may
17 include options regarding the sharing of a sin-
18 gle employment position in the health profes-
19 sions by 2 or more health professionals, and op-
20 tions regarding the recruitment of couples
21 where both of the individuals are health profes-
22 sionals.

23 “(d) CONSIDERATIONS IN PROVIDING CONTRACTS.—

1 “(1) FACTORS.—Subject to section 333A, in
2 providing contracts under the Medical School Schol-
3 arship Program, the Secretary—

4 “(A) shall consider—

5 “(i) the extent of the demonstrated in-
6 terest of the applicants for the contracts in
7 providing primary health services; and

8 “(ii) the extent of the demonstrated
9 interest of the applicants for the contracts
10 in working with underserved communities;
11 and

12 “(B) may consider such other factors re-
13 garding the applicants as the Secretary deter-
14 mines to be relevant to selecting qualified indi-
15 viduals to participate in such Program.

16 “(2) HIGHEST PRIORITY.—In providing con-
17 tracts under the Medical School Scholarship Pro-
18 gram, the Secretary shall give highest priority to any
19 application for such a contract submitted by an indi-
20 vidual who has been recruited and admitted to a
21 medical school through a medical pipeline program
22 described in section 749.

23 “(3) SECOND-HIGHEST PRIORITY.—In providing
24 contracts under the Medical School Scholarship Pro-

1 gram, the Secretary shall give second-highest pri-
2 ority—

3 “(A) to any application for such a contract
4 submitted by an individual who has (and whose
5 spouse, if any, has) characteristics that increase
6 the probability that the individual will continue
7 to serve in a health professional shortage area
8 after the period of obligated service pursuant to
9 subsection (f) is completed; and

10 “(B) subject to subparagraph (A), to any
11 application for such a contract submitted by an
12 individual who is from a disadvantaged back-
13 ground and who would otherwise be unable to
14 afford a medical school education.

15 “(e) APPROVAL REQUIRED.—

16 “(1) APPROVAL OF PARTICIPATION.—An indi-
17 vidual becomes a participant in the Medical School
18 Scholarship Program only upon the Secretary’s ap-
19 proval of the individual’s application submitted
20 under subsection (b)(3) and the Secretary’s accept-
21 ance of the contract submitted by the individual
22 under subsection (b)(4).

23 “(2) WRITTEN NOTICE.—The Secretary shall
24 provide written notice to an individual promptly
25 upon the Secretary’s approving, under paragraph

1 (1), of the individual's participation in the Medical
2 School Scholarship Program.

3 “(f) CONTENTS OF CONTRACTS.—The written con-
4 tract (referred to in this subpart) between the Secretary
5 and an individual shall contain—

6 “(1) an agreement that—

7 “(A) subject to paragraph (2), the Sec-
8 retary agrees—

9 “(i) to provide the individual with a
10 scholarship (described in subsection (g))
11 during the entire period in which the indi-
12 vidual is pursuing a course of study de-
13 scribed in subsection (b)(1)(B), with such
14 period not to exceed 5 years; and

15 “(ii) to accept (subject to the avail-
16 ability of appropriated funds for carrying
17 out sections 331 through 335 and section
18 337) the individual into the Corps (or for
19 equivalent service as otherwise provided in
20 this subpart); and

21 “(B) subject to paragraph (2), the indi-
22 vidual agrees—

23 “(i) to accept provision of such a
24 scholarship to the individual;

1 “(ii) to maintain enrollment in a
2 course of study described in subsection
3 (b)(1)(B) until the individual completes the
4 course of study;

5 “(iii) while enrolled in such course of
6 study, to maintain an acceptable level of
7 academic standing (as determined under
8 regulations of the Secretary by the edu-
9 cational institution offering such course of
10 study);

11 “(iv) to complete a residency in a spe-
12 cialty that the Secretary determines is con-
13 sistent with the needs of the Corps, except
14 that the Secretary shall not determine the
15 location of the residency training; and

16 “(v) to serve for a time period (here-
17 inafter in the subpart referred to as the
18 ‘period of obligated service’) equal to 6
19 years, as a provider of primary health serv-
20 ices in a health professional shortage area
21 (designated under section 332) to which
22 the individual is assigned by the Secretary
23 as a member of the Corps, or as otherwise
24 provided in this subpart;

1 “(2) a provision that any financial obligation of
2 the United States arising out of a contract entered
3 into under this subpart and any obligation of the in-
4 dividual which is conditioned thereon, is contingent
5 upon funds being appropriated for scholarships
6 under this subpart and to carry out the purposes of
7 sections 331 through 335 and sections 337 and 338;

8 “(3) a statement of the damages to which the
9 United States is entitled, under section 338E for the
10 individual’s breach of the contract; and

11 “(4) such other statements of the rights and li-
12 abilities of the Secretary and of the individual, not
13 inconsistent with the provisions of this subpart.

14 “(g) SCHOLARSHIPS.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A scholarship provided to a
16 student for a school year under a written contract
17 under the Medical School Scholarship Program shall
18 consist of—

19 “(A) payment to, or (in accordance with
20 paragraph (2)) on behalf of, the student of the
21 amount (except as provided in section 711) of—

22 “(i) the tuition of the student in such
23 school year; and

24 “(ii) all other reasonable educational
25 expenses, including fees, books, and labora-

1 tory expenses, incurred by the student in
2 such school year; and

3 “(B) payment to the student of a stipend
4 of—

5 “(i) \$2500 per month (adjusted in ac-
6 cordance with paragraph (3)) for each of
7 the 12 consecutive months beginning with
8 the first month of such school year during
9 the first and second school years of the
10 program of study leading to a degree in
11 medicine or osteopathic medicine; and

12 “(ii) \$3000 per month (adjusted in
13 accordance with paragraph (3)) for each of
14 the 12 consecutive months beginning with
15 the first month of such school year during
16 each subsequent school year of the pro-
17 gram of study leading to a degree in medi-
18 cine or osteopathic medicine.

19 “(2) CONTRACTS WITH SCHOOLS OF MEDICINE
20 AND SCHOOLS OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE.—The
21 Secretary may contract with a school of medicine or
22 school of osteopathic medicine, in which a partici-
23 pant in the Medical School Scholarship Program is
24 enrolled, for the payment to the school of the
25 amounts of tuition and other reasonable educational

1 expenses described in paragraph (1)(A). Payment to
2 such a school may be made without regard to section
3 3648 of the Revised Statutes (31 U.S.C. 529).

4 “(3) ADJUSTMENT OF MONTHLY STIPEND.—
5 The amount of the monthly stipend, specified in
6 paragraph (1)(B) and as previously adjusted (if at
7 all) in accordance with this paragraph, shall be in-
8 creased by the Secretary for each school year ending
9 in a fiscal year beginning after September 30, 2010,
10 by an amount (rounded to the next highest multiple
11 of \$1) equal to the amount of such stipend multi-
12 plied by the overall percentage (under section 5303
13 of title 5, United States Code) of the adjustment (if
14 such adjustment is an increase) in the rates of pay
15 under the General Schedule made effective in the
16 fiscal year in which such school year ends.

17 “(h) EMPLOYMENT CEILING.—Notwithstanding any
18 other provision of law, individuals who have entered into
19 written contracts with the Secretary under this section,
20 while undergoing academic training, shall not be counted
21 against any employment ceiling affecting the Department.

22 “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
23 authorized to be appropriated \$425,000,000 for fiscal year
24 2007 and such sums as may be necessary in each fiscal
25 year thereafter to carry out this section.”.

1 (b) OBLIGATED SERVICE.—Section 338C of such Act
2 (42 U.S.C. 254m) is amended—

3 (1) in subsection (a) by striking “338A” and
4 inserting “338A, 338A–1,”;

5 (2) in subsection (b)(1) by striking
6 “338A(f)(1)(B)(v)” and inserting
7 “338A(f)(1)(B)(v), 338A–1(f)(1)(B)(v),”; and

8 (3) in subsection (b)(5)(A) by striking “the
9 Scholarship Program” and inserting “the Scholar-
10 ship Program and the Medical School Scholarship
11 Program”.

12 (c) PRIVATE PRACTICE.—Section 338D of such Act
13 (42 U.S.C. 254n) is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a)(1) by striking “the Schol-
15 arship Program” and inserting “the Scholarship
16 Program or the Medical School Scholarship Pro-
17 gram”; and

18 (2) in subsection (c) by striking “338A” and in-
19 serting “338A, 338A–1,”.

20 (d) BREACH OF SCHOLARSHIP CONTRACT.—Section
21 338E of such Act (42 U.S.C. 254o) is amended—

22 (1) by striking “338A” each place it appears
23 and inserting “338A or 338A–1”;

1 (2) by striking “the Scholarship Program” each
2 place it appears and inserting “the Scholarship Pro-
3 gram or the Medical School Scholarship Program”;

4 (3) in subsection (b)(1)(A) by striking
5 “338A(f)(1)(B)(iv)” and inserting
6 “338A(f)(1)(B)(iv) or 338A–1(f)(1)(B)(iv)”;

7 (4) in subsection (b)(3)(B) by striking
8 “338A(g)” and inserting “338A(g) or 338A–1(g)”;
9 and

10 (5) in subsection (d)(3)(B)(i) by striking “the
11 Scholarship or Loan Repayment Program (or con-
12 tract thereunder)” and inserting “the Scholarship
13 Program, the Medical School Scholarship Program,
14 or the Loan Repayment Program (or a contract
15 under any of such programs)”.

16 (e) FUND REGARDING USE OF AMOUNTS RECOV-
17 ERED FOR CONTRACT BREACH TO REPLACE SERVICES
18 LOST AS RESULT OF BREACH.—Section 338F of such Act
19 (42 U.S.C. 254o–1) is amended by striking “338A” each
20 place it appears and inserting “338A, 338A–1,”.

1 **SEC. 4. GRANTS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AVAILABLE**
2 **SLOTS FOR NEWLY ADMITTED MEDICAL STU-**
3 **DENTS AND TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN**
4 **THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS**
5 **MEDICAL SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**

6 Part C of title VII of the Public Health Service Act
7 (42 U.S.C. 293k et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
8 the following:

9 **“SEC. 749. GRANTS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AVAIL-**
10 **ABLE SLOTS FOR NEWLY ADMITTED MEDICAL**
11 **STUDENTS AND TO INCREASE PARTICIPA-**
12 **TION IN THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE**
13 **CORPS MEDICAL SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP**
14 **PROGRAM.**

15 “(a) GRANTS TO MEDICAL SCHOOLS.—

16 “(1) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary
17 may make grants to medical schools for the fol-
18 lowing purposes:

19 “(A) To increase the capacity of the recipi-
20 ent medical school to accept additional medical
21 students each year.

22 “(B) To develop curriculum.

23 “(C) To acquire equipment.

24 “(D) To recruit, train, and retain faculty.

25 “(E) To provide assistance to students who
26 have completed a course of study at the recipi-

1 ent medical school during the period in which
2 such students are completing a residency pro-
3 gram affiliated with the recipient medical
4 school.

5 “(2) APPLICATION.—A medical school seeking a
6 grant under this subsection shall submit an applica-
7 tion to the Secretary at such time, in such manner,
8 and containing such information as the Secretary
9 may require.

10 “(3) PRIORITY FOR ADDITIONAL SLOTS.—Pri-
11 ority for additional slots made available using funds
12 from a grant awarded under this subsection shall be
13 given to students who have been recruited by the re-
14 cipient medical school through a medical school pipe-
15 line program described in subsection (b)(2).

16 “(b) GRANTS TO MEDICAL ORGANIZATIONS.—

17 “(1) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary
18 may make grants to eligible medical organizations
19 for the following purposes:

20 “(A) To recruit students to participate in
21 the National Health Service Corps Medical
22 School Scholarship Program authorized by sec-
23 tion 338A–1 (in this section referred to as the
24 ‘Medical School Scholarship Program’).

1 “(B) To participate in a medical school
2 pipeline program described in paragraph (2).

3 “(2) MEDICAL SCHOOL PIPELINE PROGRAM.—A
4 medical school pipeline program is a program to tar-
5 get minority students to increase the number of mi-
6 nority health professionals serving medically under-
7 served communities through activities including tu-
8 toring, course development, and other student sup-
9 port designed to recruit students from middle
10 schools, high schools, and universities to participate
11 in the Medical School Scholarship Program.

12 “(3) GRANT AMOUNTS.—The Secretary shall
13 determine the amount of a grant based on factors
14 including the cost of living and health care needs of
15 the State for which students are recruited.

16 “(4) APPLICATION.—A medical organization
17 seeking a grant under this subsection shall submit
18 an application to the Secretary at such time, in such
19 manner, and containing such information as the Sec-
20 retary may require, including—

21 “(A) a description of how the organization
22 will carry out the purposes described in sub-
23 section (b)(1);

24 “(B) a description of goals and objectives
25 with respect to—

1 “(i) the intended number of students
2 to be accepted and graduated from medical
3 schools each year under the grant program
4 established under this subsection;

5 “(ii) the intended number of newly
6 graduated students who will serve in medi-
7 cally underserved communities; and

8 “(iii) the intended number of individ-
9 uals in medically underserved communities
10 who will have access to primary care physi-
11 cians as a result of the increase in grad-
12 uating physicians under the grant pro-
13 gram; and

14 “(C) information regarding the anticipated
15 number of Medical School Scholarship students
16 the organization seeks to recruit.

17 “(5) REPORTS REQUIRED.—

18 “(A) GRANT RECIPIENTS.—A recipient of
19 a grant under this subsection shall submit to
20 the Secretary at the end of each fiscal year in
21 which a grant is received, a report containing
22 the following:

23 “(i) The amount of the grant received
24 under this subsection.

1 “(ii) An expense report detailing the
2 use of amounts from a grant under this
3 subsection.

4 “(iii) A description of the results of
5 the use of amounts from a grant under
6 this subsection.

7 “(B) SECRETARY.—At the end of each fis-
8 cal year in which grants under this subsection
9 are made, the Secretary shall compile and sub-
10 mit to Congress the information received under
11 paragraph (5)(A).

12 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following
13 definitions apply:

14 “(1) MEDICAL SCHOOL.—The term ‘medical
15 school’ means a school of medicine or a school of os-
16 teopathic medicine.

17 “(2) MEDICAL SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP STU-
18 DENT.—The term ‘Medical School Scholarship Stu-
19 dent’ means a student who is a recipient of a schol-
20 arship under the Health Service Corps Medical
21 School Scholarship Program authorized by section
22 338A-1.

23 “(3) MEDICAL ORGANIZATION.—The term
24 ‘medical organization’ means a national, State, local,
25 or community-based public or nonprofit private orga-

1 nization having as its mission the goal of identifying
2 and recruiting minority students for health profes-
3 sions.

4 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
5 is authorized to be appropriated—

6 “(1) \$500,000,000 for fiscal year 2007 and
7 such sums as may be necessary in each fiscal year
8 thereafter to carry out subsection (a); and

9 “(2) \$35,000,000 for fiscal year 2007 and such
10 sums as may be necessary in each fiscal year there-
11 after to carry out subsection (b).”.

12 **SEC. 5. EXPANSION OF RESIDENCY PROGRAMS AND PRI-**
13 **MARY CARE SERVICES OFFERED BY COMMU-**
14 **NITY HEALTH CENTERS.**

15 Part C of title VII of the Public Health Service Act
16 (42 U.S.C. 293k et seq.) is amended by adding after sec-
17 tion 749 the following:

18 **“SEC. 749A. GRANTS TO ESTABLISH MEDICAL RESIDENCY**
19 **PROGRAMS AT COMMUNITY HEALTH CEN-**
20 **TERS.**

21 “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may
22 make grants to community health centers to establish, at
23 the centers, new or alternative-campus accredited medical
24 residency programs affiliated with accredited medical pro-
25 grams.

1 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts from a grant under
2 this section shall be used to cover the costs of establishing
3 the medical residency program described in subsection (a),
4 including costs associated with—

5 “(1) curriculum development;

6 “(2) equipment acquisition; and

7 “(3) recruitment, training, and retention of
8 residents and faculty.

9 “(c) APPLICATIONS.—A community health center
10 seeking a grant under this section shall submit an applica-
11 tion to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
12 containing such information as the Secretary may require.

13 “(d) REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS.—In reviewing appli-
14 cations submitted under subsection (c), and in selecting
15 recipients for a grant under this section, the Secretary
16 shall give preference to funding medical residency pro-
17 grams focusing on providing training in primary care, psy-
18 chiatric care, and emergency care medicine.

19 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following
20 definitions apply:

21 “(1) ACCREDITED.—The term ‘accredited’, as
22 applied to a new or alternative-campus medical resi-
23 dency program, means a program that is accredited
24 by a recognized body or bodies approved for such
25 purpose by the Accreditation Council for Graduate

1 Medical Education, except that a new medical resi-
2 dency program that, by reason of an insufficient pe-
3 riod of operation, is not eligible for accreditation on
4 or before the date of submission of an application
5 under subsection (c) shall be deemed accredited if
6 the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical
7 Education finds, after consultation with the appro-
8 priate accreditation body or bodies, that there is rea-
9 sonable assurance that the program will meet the ac-
10 creditation standards of such body or bodies prior to
11 the date of graduation of the first entering class in
12 that program.

13 “(2) COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER.—The term
14 ‘community health center’ means a health center as
15 defined in section 330.

16 “(3) MEDICAL PROGRAM.—The term ‘medical
17 program’ means a program in medicine or a pro-
18 gram in osteopathic medicine.

19 **“SEC. 749B. GRANTS TO IMPROVE DELIVERY OF PRIMARY**
20 **CARE SERVICES IN COMMUNITY HEALTH**
21 **CENTERS.**

22 “(a) PRIMARY CARE ACCESS GRANTS.—

23 “(1) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary,
24 acting through the Administrator of the Health Re-
25 sources and Services Administration, may make

1 grants to community health centers for the purpose
2 of increasing the number of medical service pro-
3 viders associated with such centers.

4 “(2) GRANTS.—A recipient of a grant under
5 this subsection shall be eligible to receive such
6 grants for five fiscal years.

7 “(3) USE OF FUNDS.—A recipient of a grant
8 under this subsection shall use amounts from the
9 grant for one or more of the following activities:

10 “(A) To recruit residents for medical resi-
11 dency programs at community health centers
12 from among students who are recipients of a
13 scholarship under the National Health Service
14 Corps Medical School Scholarship Program au-
15 thorized by section 338A–1.

16 “(B) To establish a multi-community phy-
17 sician mentoring program to encourage upper
18 level residents to remain in the State in which
19 the community health center and medical resi-
20 dency program are located.

21 “(C) To enter into contracts for technical
22 assistance for the purpose of recruiting or re-
23 taining primary care staff.

24 “(D) To enter into contracts for technical
25 assistance in preparing contracts with local pro-

1 viders of primary health care to provide services
2 for medically underserved communities.

3 “(4) APPLICATION.—A community health cen-
4 ter seeking a grant under this subsection shall sub-
5 mit an application to the Secretary at such time, in
6 such manner, and containing such information as
7 the Secretary may require.

8 “(b) GRANTS FOR PRIMARY CARE FACILITY CAPITAL
9 EXPENDITURES.—

10 “(1) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary,
11 acting through the Administrator, may make grants
12 to community health centers for the purpose of in-
13 creasing primary care capabilities through the con-
14 struction, expansion, or renovation of facilities.

15 “(2) GRANTS.—A recipient of a grant under
16 this subsection shall be eligible to receive such
17 grants for 5 fiscal years.

18 “(3) USE OF FUNDS.—A recipient of a grant
19 under this subsection shall use amounts from the
20 grant for one or more of the following activities:

21 “(A) To acquire or lease facilities.

22 “(B) To construct new facilities.

23 “(C) To repair or modernize existing facili-
24 ties.

1 “(D) To purchase or lease medical equip-
2 ment.

3 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following
4 definitions apply:

5 “(1) COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER.—The term
6 ‘community health center’ means a health center as
7 defined in section 330.

8 “(2) MEDICAL SCHOOL.—The term ‘medical
9 school’ means a school of medicine or a school of os-
10 teopathic medicine.

11 **“SEC. 749C. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS TO AS-**
12 **SIST COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS.**

13 “‘There is authorized to be appropriated
14 \$200,000,000 for fiscal year 2007 and such sums as may
15 be necessary for each fiscal year thereafter to carry out
16 sections 749A and 749B.’”.

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