

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 909

To provide for the review and classification of physician assistant positions in the Federal Government, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 29, 1999

Mr. CONRAD (for himself, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mr. HARKIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To provide for the review and classification of physician assistant positions in the Federal Government, 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. REVIEW AND CLASSIFICATION OF PHYSICIAN**
4 **ASSISTANT POSITIONS.**

5 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
6 “Physician Assistant Equity Act”.

7 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

1 (1) the terms “class” and “class of positions”
2 have the meanings given such terms under section
3 5102(a)(4) of title 5, United States Code; and

4 (2) the term “position” has the meaning given
5 such term under section 5102(a)(3) of title 5,
6 United States Code.

7 (c) REVIEW AND CLASSIFICATION.—Not later than
8 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director
9 of the Office of Personnel Management shall—

10 (1) review the classification of the position of
11 physician assistant, including the factors considered
12 under section 5102(a)(4) (A), (B), and (C) of title
13 5, United States Code;

14 (2) in conducting the review under paragraph
15 (1)—

16 (A) solicit comments from physician assist-
17 ants and organizations representative of physi-
18 cian assistants; and

19 (B) give specific consideration to—

20 (i) the private sector qualifications,
21 requirements for practice, compensation,
22 and experience of a physician assistant;
23 and

24 (ii) the educational and practice quali-
25 fications required for the position of physi-

1 cian assistant, including national accredita-
2 tion standards and State licensing require-
3 ments;

4 (3) reclassify the position of physician assistant
5 in a professional class that is different from the
6 class of positions that include any nurse position or
7 medical technician position; and

8 (4) make any appropriate adjustments in per-
9 sonnel and pay administration consistent with the
10 review and classification conducted under this sub-
11 section.

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