

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1975

To amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to include each year of fellowship training in geriatric medicine or geriatric psychiatry as a year of obligated service under the National Health Corps Loan Repayment Program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 28, 2002

Mr. REID (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to include each year of fellowship training in geriatric medicine or geriatric psychiatry as a year of obligated service under the National Health Corps Loan Repayment Program.

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 “Geriatricians Loan
5 Forgiveness Act of 2002”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS LOAN REPAY-**
 2 **MENT PROGRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 338B(g) of the Public
 4 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254l–1(g)) is amended by
 5 adding at the end the following:

6 “(5) OBLIGATED SERVICE.—

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this
 8 section, each year of training in geriatric medi-
 9 cine or geriatric psychiatry that is required in
 10 order to obtain a certificate of added qualifica-
 11 tion in geriatric medicine or geriatric psychiatry
 12 shall be deemed to be a year of obligated serv-
 13 ice.

14 “(B) LIMITATIONS.—

15 “(i) PAYMENTS.—Notwithstanding
 16 the first sentence of paragraph (2)(A), for
 17 the year of obligated service described in
 18 subparagraph (A), the Secretary may pay
 19 up to \$20,000 on behalf of the individual
 20 for loans described in paragraph (1).

21 “(ii) INDIVIDUALS.—The number of
 22 fellowship years in geriatric medicine or
 23 geriatric psychiatry that are deemed to be
 24 a year of obligated service under this sec-
 25 tion shall not exceed 400 in any calendar
 26 year.”.

1 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by
3 subsection (a) shall apply to applications submitted
4 to the Secretary of Health and Human Services
5 under section 338B of the Public Health Service Act
6 (42 U.S.C. 254l–1) on or after 1 year after the date
7 of enactment of this Act.

8 (2) FIRST YEAR OF PROGRAM.—For the period
9 beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and
10 ending on December 31 of the calendar year in
11 which such enactment occurs, the Secretary of
12 Health and Human Services shall ratably reduce the
13 maximum number of fellowship years in geriatric
14 medicine or geriatric psychiatry that may be deemed
15 to be a year of obligated service under section
16 338B(g)(5)(B)(ii) of the Public Health Service Act
17 (42 U.S.C. 254l–1(g)(5)(B)(ii)) (as added by sub-
18 section (a)) to reflect the portion of the year that
19 the amendments made by subsection (a) are in ef-
20 fect.

○