

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2597

To authorize a 3-year demonstration program to recruit and train physicians to serve in a rural setting.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 6, 2002

Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BURNS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. MURKOWSKI, and Ms. CANTWELL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To authorize a 3-year demonstration program to recruit and train physicians to serve in a rural setting.

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 “Rural Health Training
5 Incentive Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. WWAMI DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.**

7 (a) GRANT AUTHORIZED.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
9 Human Services (in this section referred to as the

1 “Secretary”) is authorized to award a grant to the
2 Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho
3 joint medical school (in this section referred to as
4 “WWAMI”) to strengthen and expand programs to
5 encourage more health professionals to practice in
6 rural areas.

7 (2) DURATION.—The Secretary shall award the
8 grant in paragraph (1) for a period of 3 years.

9 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—The grant awarded pursuant
10 to subsection (a) may be used for activities including—

11 (1) developing new mechanisms for recruiting
12 and mentoring rural youth with respect to all health
13 professions;

14 (2) strengthening and stabilizing the system of
15 training for the family physicians needed in rural
16 areas; and

17 (3) expanding the network of rural training
18 tracks throughout WWAMI.

19 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the end
20 of the grant period described in subsection (a)(2),
21 WWAMI shall submit to the Secretary a report evaluating
22 the results of programs funded with the grant authorized
23 under subsection (a)(1) and any recommendations regard-
24 ing the effectiveness of such programs.

1 **SEC. 3. PROJECT EXPANSION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—After submission of the report re-
3 quired in section 2(c), the Secretary is authorized to
4 award grants to eligible entities to expand the programs
5 under section 2, and to implement the recommendations
6 made in such report, in other geographic areas.

7 (b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY DEFINED.—As used in this
8 section, the term “eligible entity” means a partnership be-
9 tween a regional university or college and the medical
10 school associated with such university or college where
11 such medical school has a rural area training track of at
12 least 2 months.

13 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-
15 priated to carry out this Act, except section 2(c) and sec-
16 tion 3, \$3,400,000 for fiscal year 2003, \$4,100,000 for
17 fiscal year 2004, and \$4,800,000 for fiscal year 2005.

18 (b) EVALUATION.—There is authorized to be appro-
19 priated to carry out the report described in section 2(c),
20 \$500,000 for fiscal year 2005.

21 (c) PROJECT EXPANSION.—There is authorized to be
22 appropriated to carry out section 3, such sums as may
23 be necessary beginning in fiscal year 2006.

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