

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2794

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants to increase the number of qualified nursing faculty, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 20, 2007

Mr. PASTOR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants to increase the number of qualified nursing faculty, 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 “America’s Partnership  
5       for Nursing Education Act of 2007”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.**

7       (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds as follows:

8               (1) The nursing shortage has a detrimental im-  
9       pact on the quality of care patients receive in health

1 care settings and plays a role in driving up health  
2 care costs.

3 (2) States that have developed strategies involv-  
4 ing partnerships with educational institutions and  
5 have allocated funds toward implementing their  
6 strategies are well suited to make effective use of  
7 matching Federal funds to better address and re-  
8 duce this nursing shortage

9 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to support  
10 State and private efforts to address lack of capacity in  
11 college and university nursing programs, the critical driv-  
12 ing force behind the serious nursing shortage in many  
13 States with fast growing populations.

14 **SEC. 3. GRANTS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF QUALIFIED**  
15 **NURSING FACULTY.**

16 Part D of title VIII of the Public Health Service Act  
17 (42 U.S.C. 296p) is amended by adding at the end the  
18 following:

19 **“SEC. 832. GRANTS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF QUALI-**  
20 **FIED NURSING FACULTY.**

21 “(a) GRANTS.—The Secretary of Health and Human  
22 Services shall make grants to qualified States (or agencies  
23 or other governmental units thereof) to increase the num-  
24 ber of qualified nursing faculty in college and university  
25 nursing programs in the State.

1 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition on the re-  
3 ceipt of a grant under this section, a qualifying  
4 State shall agree to implement or continue imple-  
5 menting a program for the purpose of increasing the  
6 number of qualified nursing faculty in college and  
7 university nursing programs in the State. Such pro-  
8 gram—

9 “(A) shall be implemented in cooperation  
10 with one or more colleges or universities in the  
11 State; and

12 “(B) shall include payment of nursing fac-  
13 ulty salaries, benefits, training costs, oper-  
14 ational costs, and any other costs related to  
15 such purpose.

16 “(2) RESTRICTIONS.—As a condition on the re-  
17 ceipt of a grant under this section, a qualifying  
18 State shall agree—

19 “(A) to use the grant only to pay costs de-  
20 scribed in paragraph (1)(B) that are associated  
21 with the number of qualified nursing faculty in  
22 college and university nursing programs in the  
23 State that is in addition to such number in aca-  
24 demic year 2006–2007; and

1 “(B) to refrain from using any funds made  
2 available through the grant for capital expenses.

3 “(c) AMOUNT OF GRANT.—

4 “(1) FEDERAL FUNDS.—Subject to the avail-  
5 ability of appropriations, the minimum amount of a  
6 grant to a qualifying State under this section for a  
7 fiscal year shall be \$2,000,000.

8 “(2) STATE FUNDS.—As a condition on the re-  
9 ceipt of a grant under this section, a qualifying  
10 State shall agree—

11 “(A) to use the grant to supplement and  
12 not supplant the amount of funds made avail-  
13 able by the State for academic year 2006–2007  
14 for maintaining the number of qualified nursing  
15 faculty in college and university nursing pro-  
16 grams in the State; and

17 “(B) in addition to such funds, to make  
18 available not less than \$2,000,000 for each of  
19 fiscal years 2008 through 2012 for the purpose  
20 of increasing the number of qualified nursing  
21 faculty in college and university nursing pro-  
22 grams in the State.

23 “(d) COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.—The Secretary  
24 shall allow a qualifying State receiving a grant under this  
25 section to determine which college and university nursing

1 programs in the State are eligible for funding through  
2 such grant.

3 “(e) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than the  
4 end of each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, the Sec-  
5 retary shall submit to the Congress a report on the grants  
6 awarded under this section. Each such report shall iden-  
7 tify the overall number of grants awarded under this sec-  
8 tion, which States (or agencies or other governmental  
9 units thereof) received the grants, the number of new  
10 nursing faculty who were added, and the number of new  
11 nurses who are projected to graduate as a result of the  
12 grant in each State involved.

13 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14 “(1) The term ‘qualifying State’ means a State  
15 that—

16 “(A) is experiencing explosive population  
17 growth, with total population projected to in-  
18 crease by more than 50 percent between 1990  
19 and 2025 based on data of the Bureau of the  
20 Census;

21 “(B) has a substantial projected shortage  
22 of nurses, such that the State is expected to  
23 have fewer than 555 nurses per 100,000 popu-  
24 lation in 2020, based on data of the Bureau of

1 Health Professions of the Health Resources and  
2 Services Administration; and

3 “(C) is implementing or continuing to im-  
4 plement a program for the purpose of increas-  
5 ing the number of qualified nursing faculty in  
6 college and university nursing programs in the  
7 State.

8 “(2) The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary  
9 of Health and Human Services.

10 “(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To  
11 carry out this section, there is authorized to be appro-  
12 priated \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through  
13 2012.”.

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