

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3587

To direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to provide grants to hospitals and nonprofit health care institutions for use in improving building and maintenance operations to engage in environmentally sustainable practices.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 25 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 17), 2008

Mrs. CLINTON introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to provide grants to hospitals and nonprofit health care institutions for use in improving building and maintenance operations to engage in environmentally sustainable practices.

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 “Greening the
5 Healthcare Workforce Act of 2008”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
2 trator” means the Administrator of the Environ-
3 mental Protection Agency, acting in conjunction
4 with the Secretary.

5 (2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
6 ty” means a nonprofit hospital or nonprofit health
7 care institution, as identified by the Administrator,
8 that submits an application described in section
9 3(b).

10 (3) GREEN GUIDE.—The term “Green Guide”
11 means the most recent Green Guide for Health
12 Care.

13 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
14 the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

15 **SEC. 3. GRANT PROGRAM.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall establish
17 a program to provide grants to eligible entities for use in
18 improving building and maintenance operations to engage
19 in environmentally sustainable practices, including for—

20 (1) the training of employees in environmentally
21 sound waste management practices, such as those
22 recommended by the Green Guide, or other con-
23 sensus-based recommendations, as the Administrator
24 determines to be appropriate;

1 (2) the training of employees in environmentally
2 sound chemical management practices, such as those
3 recommended by the Green Guide, or other con-
4 sensus-based recommendations, as the Administrator
5 determines to be appropriate;

6 (3) the conduct of activities to reduce use of
7 mercury-containing medical supplies, and ensure
8 proper disposal of any mercury-containing medical
9 supplies;

10 (4) the conduct of minor improvements to both
11 grounds and facilities to improve energy efficiency,
12 reduce water waste, and improve indoor air quality,
13 such as those recommended by the Green Guide, or
14 other consensus-based recommendations, as the Ad-
15 ministrator determines to be appropriate; and

16 (5) the conduct of other activities, as approved
17 by the Administrator, that would assist in reducing
18 the environmental pollution and waste of eligible en-
19 tities.

20 (b) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant
21 under this section, an eligible entity shall submit to the
22 Administrator an application in such form, at such time,
23 and containing such information as the Administrator may
24 require, including—

1 (1) demonstrated evidence that the eligible enti-
2 ty has evaluated the environmental policies, analyzed
3 the building and maintenance operations, and identi-
4 fied areas of improvement of the eligible entity that
5 could increase energy efficiency, reduce waste, and
6 improve environmental health for patients, employ-
7 ees, and visitors to the eligible entity;

8 (2) demonstrated evidence of existing efforts by
9 the eligible entity to address environmental pollu-
10 tion, reduce waste, and increase energy efficiency;
11 and

12 (3) a detailed plan for the use of grant funding,
13 including a description of the manner in which out-
14 comes will be measured to demonstrate improve-
15 ments to the environment as a result of the use of
16 the grant funding.

17 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date
18 of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Ad-
19 ministrator shall submit to Congress and make available
20 to the public (including on the website of the Environ-
21 mental Protection Agency) a report that describes the
22 progress made in carrying out this Act during the period
23 covered by the report.

1 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act
3 \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2013.

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