

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1771

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a program of grants to newly accredited allopathic medical schools for the purpose of increasing the supply of physicians.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 8, 2009

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

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a program of grants to newly accredited allopathic medical schools for the purpose of increasing the supply of physicians.

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 “Medical Education De-
5 velopment Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

1 (1) According to the Council on Graduate Med-
 2 ical Education, the Nation will face a shortage of
 3 about 85,000 physicians by 2020, due in part to the
 4 aging population.

5 (2) The American Academy of Family Physi-
 6 cians recommended in 2006 that to meet the need
 7 for primary care physicians in 2020, the United
 8 States would have to train 3,725 family physicians
 9 and 714 osteopathic physicians annually, with an
 10 overall goal of a 39 percent increase in family physi-
 11 cians.

12 (3) The Association of American Medical Col-
 13 leges has called for increased enrollment at Liaison
 14 Committee on Medical Education (LCME) accred-
 15 ited schools from 15 to 30 percent over the 2002
 16 levels by 2015. This increase would boost the num-
 17 ber of graduates to about 20,000.

18 (4) The Federal Government has not supported
 19 the expansion of medical education in a major way
 20 since the 1960s and 1970s.

21 **SEC. 3. GRANTS FOR FUNDING OF NEWLY ACCREDITED**
 22 **MEDICAL SCHOOLS.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
 24 Human Services (in this section referred to as the “Sec-
 25 retary”) shall establish a program of grants to newly ac-

1 credited allopathic medical schools for the purpose of in-
2 creasing the supply of physicians.

3 (b) USE OF GRANTS.—Amounts provided under
4 grants under this section may be used to support scholar-
5 ships, develop residencies, build infrastructure, recruit and
6 retain faculty, and develop research programs for the pur-
7 pose described in subsection (a).

8 (c) ALLOCATION.—The Secretary shall allocate funds
9 appropriated under this section among newly accredited
10 medical schools based on the following criteria:

11 (1) First priority shall be given to allopathic
12 medical schools accredited to admit students from
13 fiscal years 2009 through 2014.

14 (2) Medical schools that enroll larger classes,
15 while maintaining competitive faculty to student ra-
16 tios, shall receive increased funding based on their
17 size.

18 (3) Funds shall only be allocated to medical
19 schools that provide accountability and transparency
20 in expending such funds.

21 (d) ANNUAL REPORTS.—

22 (1) REPORTS TO SECRETARY.—Each medical
23 school receiving a grant under this section shall sub-
24 mit an annual report to the Secretary—

1 (A) describing the specific uses of the
2 funds received through the grant;

3 (B) describing how the grant has bene-
4 fitted the region and the Nation as a whole;
5 and

6 (C) containing such additional information
7 as the Secretary may require.

8 (2) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
9 the end of fiscal year 2010, and annually thereafter,
10 the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress
11 on the grant program under this section. Each such
12 report shall include an evaluation of the effectiveness
13 of grants under this section, taking into consider-
14 ation the extent to which such grants have—

15 (A) increased the supply of physicians;

16 (B) resulted in greater access to primary
17 and specialty health care;

18 (C) enabled the creation of new, high-qual-
19 ity, cost-conscious care models;

20 (D) provided economic regional benefits;
21 and

22 (E) increased the focus on communications
23 skills of medical students.

24 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
25 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section

- 1 \$250,000,000 for the 5-fiscal-year period beginning with
- 2 fiscal year 2010.

