

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1605

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide loan repayment incentives for physician assistants, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2017

Ms. BASS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide loan repayment incentives for physician assistants, 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 “Physician Assistant  
5       Education Public Health Initiatives Act of 2017”.

1   **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITY CREDIT FOR SERVICE AS**  
2                   **A CLINICAL PRECEPTOR FOR PHYSICIAN AS-**  
3                   **SISTANT TRAINING.**

4       Section 1848(q)(2)(B)(iii) of the Social Security Act  
5   (42 U.S.C. 1395w–4(q)(2)(B)(iii)) is amended by adding  
6   at the end the following new subclause:

7                   “(VII) The subcategory of work-  
8                   force development, such as through  
9                   service as a preceptor at a clinical  
10                  training site for students training to  
11                  become physician assistants.”.

12   **SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF PRIMARY CARE TRAINING**  
13                   **AND ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMS.**

14       Section 747(c) of the Public Health Service Act (42  
15   U.S.C. 293k(c)) is amended—

16                  (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting after “2014”  
17                  the following: “and each of fiscal years 2018  
18                  through 2022”; and

19                  (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “Fifteen” and  
20                  inserting “At least 15”.

21   **SEC. 4. GRANTS FOR RESEARCH ON PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT**  
22                   **EDUCATION.**

23       (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and  
24   Human Services shall provide grants to eligible entities to  
25   fund eligible researchers to increase research on physician  
26   assistant education.

1       (b) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity desiring a grant  
2 under this section shall submit to the Secretary an appli-  
3 cation at such time, in such manner, and containing such  
4 information as the Secretary may require.

5       (c) CONDITION OF RECEIPT.—As a condition of re-  
6 ceipt of a grant under this section, an entity shall each  
7 year award not fewer than eight eligible researchers funds  
8 to support physician assistant education research.

9       (d) REPORT REQUIREMENT.—An entity receiving a  
10 grant under this section shall provide to the Secretary  
11 with respect to each year that such entity receives funds  
12 under this section a report on the activities conducted  
13 using such funds, including—

14              (1) the number of researchers supported during  
15 such year by such entity using such funds;

16              (2) a list of the researchers counted under  
17 paragraph (1), organized by researcher, including—

18                  (A) the institution such researcher is affili-  
19 ated with; and

20                  (B) the research topic of such researcher;

21              (3) citations to published clinical and scientific  
22 research by researchers described in paragraph (1)  
23 that is attributable to support under this section;

24              (4) an evaluation of the benefits of grants  
25 under this section; and

(5) any other information the Secretary may request.

3       (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible entity” means an organization that—

(A) is a nonprofit organization; and

(B) has demonstrated expertise in physician assistant education and faculty development.

13 (A) has demonstrated expertise in physi-  
14 cian assistant education and faculty develop-  
15 ment; and

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

3                             (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
4                             are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be  
5                             necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years  
6                             2018 through 2022.

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