

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 780

To amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to include each year of fellowship training in geriatric medicine or geriatric psychiatry as a year of obligated service under the National Health Corps Loan Repayment Program.

---

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 22, 1997

Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. GLENN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources

---

## A BILL

To amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to include each year of fellowship training in geriatric medicine or geriatric psychiatry as a year of obligated service under the National Health Corps Loan Repayment Program.

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 “Geriatricians Loan  
5 Forgiveness Act of 1997”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS LOAN REPAY-**  
2 **MENT PROGRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 338B(g) of the Public  
4 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254l–1(g)) is amended by  
5 adding at the end the following:

6 “(5) OBLIGATED SERVICE.—

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this  
8 section, each year of training in geriatric medi-  
9 cine or geriatric psychiatry that is required in  
10 order to obtain a certificate of added qualifica-  
11 tion in geriatric medicine or geriatric psychiatry  
12 shall be deemed to be a year of obligated serv-  
13 ice.

14 “(B) LIMITATIONS.—

15 “(i) PAYMENTS.—Notwithstanding  
16 the first sentence of paragraph (2)(A), for  
17 the year of obligated service described in  
18 subparagraph (A), the Secretary may pay  
19 up to \$20,000 on behalf of the individual  
20 for loans described in paragraph (1).

21 “(ii) INDIVIDUALS.—The number of  
22 fellowship years in geriatric medicine or  
23 geriatric psychiatry that are deemed to be  
24 a year of obligated service under this sec-  
25 tion shall not exceed 400 in any calendar  
26 year.”.

1 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by  
3 subsection (a) shall apply to applications submitted  
4 to the Secretary of Health and Human Services  
5 under section 338B of the Public Health Service Act  
6 (42 U.S.C. 2541–1) on or after 1 year after the date  
7 of enactment of this Act.

8 (2) FIRST YEAR OF PROGRAM.—For the period  
9 beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and  
10 ending on December 31 of the calendar year in  
11 which such enactment occurs, the Secretary of  
12 Health and Human Services shall ratably reduce the  
13 maximum number of fellowship years in geriatric  
14 medicine or geriatric psychiatry that may be deemed  
15 to be a year of obligated service under section  
16 338B(g)(5)(B)(ii) of the Public Health Service Act  
17 (42 U.S.C. 2541–1(g)(5)(B)(ii)) (as added by sub-  
18 section (a)) to reflect the portion of the year that  
19 the amendments made by subsection (a) are in ef-  
20 fect.

○