

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2053

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to associate degree schools of nursing and professional nursing organizations to improve nursing education, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 9, 2003

Mr. CAPUANO (for himself, Mr. FLETCHER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. FROST, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. LEE, Mr. REYES, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. BACA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to associate degree schools of nursing and professional nursing organizations to improve nursing education, 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 referred to as the “Nurse Education  
5 Promotion Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS FOR NURSING EDUCATION.**

2 (a) ASSOCIATE SCHOOLS OF NURSING.—Part D of  
3 title VIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.  
4 296p et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
5 lowing:

6 **“SEC. 832. GRANTS FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE SCHOOLS OF**  
7 **NURSING.**

8 “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may  
9 award grants on a competitive basis to associate degree  
10 schools of nursing to establish or expand programs of edu-  
11 cation in professional nursing.

12 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary may not award  
13 a grant to an applicant under subsection (a) unless the  
14 applicant involved agrees that funds received as a grant  
15 under this section will be used only to pay all or part of  
16 the costs of the following:

17 “(1) Recruitment of nursing students.

18 “(2) Scholarships for nursing students.

19 “(3) Hiring nursing faculty.

20 “(c) ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS.—For pur-  
21 poses of awarding a scholarship described in subsection  
22 (b)(2), an associate degree school of nursing shall treat  
23 an individual as eligible for the scholarship irrespective of  
24 whether the individual has or has not previously received  
25 any postsecondary education.”.

1 (b) CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR CERTAIN  
2 NURSES.—Part D of title VIII of the Public Health Serv-  
3 ice Act (42 U.S.C. 296p et seq.) is further amended by  
4 adding at the end the following:

5 **“SEC. 833. GRANTS FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR CER-**  
6 **TAIN NURSES.**

7 “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may  
8 award grants on a competitive basis to professional nurs-  
9 ing organizations (including nursing union chapters) to es-  
10 tablish and administer cooperative programs described in  
11 subsection (b).

12 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary may not award  
13 a grant to an applicant under subsection (a) unless the  
14 applicant involved agrees that funds received as a grant  
15 under this section will be used to establish or administer  
16 a program, in cooperation with one or more hospitals and  
17 one or more colleges, to enable individuals who have re-  
18 ceived an associate degree in nursing (or its equivalent)  
19 or a diploma in nursing—

20 “(1) to pursue a full-time or half-time course of  
21 study leading to a baccalaureate degree in nursing  
22 or an equivalent degree; or

23 “(2) to receive training in a nursing specialty  
24 that has been designated by the Secretary as under-  
25 staffed and critical.

1       “(c) CLINICAL TRAINING.—The Secretary may not  
2 award a grant to a professional nursing organization to  
3 establish or administer a program under subsection (a)  
4 unless the organization agrees to ensure the following:

5           “(1) CHOICE.—Subject to paragraph (2), the  
6 professional nursing organization will allow an indi-  
7 vidual pursuing a course of study or receiving train-  
8 ing pursuant to subsection (b)(1) or (b)(2) to choose  
9 to perform the clinical portion of the study or train-  
10 ing at the hospital where the individual is employed  
11 or at any hospital cooperating in the program.

12           “(2) AGREEMENT.—An individual may perform  
13 the clinical portion described in paragraph (1) at the  
14 hospital chosen by the individual under such para-  
15 graph only if the hospital agrees to provide the clin-  
16 ical portion.

17           “(3) PRIORITY.—If a particular hospital cannot  
18 accommodate all of the individuals who choose to  
19 perform the clinical portion described in paragraph  
20 (1) at that hospital, the professional nursing organi-  
21 zation will give priority to the choice of any such in-  
22 dividual who is employed at that hospital.

23           “(4) RELATION TO REGULAR WORK.— In the  
24 case of an individual who performs the clinical por-  
25 tion described in paragraph (1) at the hospital where

1 the individual is employed, that hospital may incor-  
2 porate all or some of the clinical portion into the  
3 regular work period of the individual.

4 “(d) COMPENSATION.—The Secretary may not award  
5 a grant to a professional nursing organization to establish  
6 or administer a program under subsection (a) unless the  
7 organization agrees compensate each hospital and college  
8 that cooperates in the program, at rates to be negotiated  
9 between the organization and the respective hospital or  
10 college.”.

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