

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 473

To amend the Public Health Service Act to promote and improve the allied health professions.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 28, 2005

Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. LIEBERMAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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## A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to promote and improve the allied health professions.

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 “Allied Health Reinvest-  
5 ment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
8 ings:

9 (1) The United States Census Bureau and  
10 other reports highlight the increased demand for

1 acute and chronic healthcare services among both  
2 the general population and a rapidly growing aging  
3 portion of the population.

4 (2) The calls for reduction in medical errors, in-  
5 creased patient safety, and quality of care have re-  
6 sulted in an amplified call for allied health profes-  
7 sionals to provide healthcare services.

8 (3) Several allied health professions are charac-  
9 terized by workforce shortages, declining enrollments  
10 in allied health education programs, or a combina-  
11 tion of both factors, and hospital officials have re-  
12 ported vacancy rates in positions occupied by allied  
13 health professionals.

14 (4) Many allied health education programs are  
15 facing significant economic pressure that could force  
16 their closure due to an insufficient number of stu-  
17 dents.

18 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to pro-  
19 vide incentives for individuals to seek and complete high  
20 quality allied health education and training and provide  
21 additional funding to ensure that such education and  
22 training can be provided to allied health students so that  
23 the United States healthcare industry will have a supply  
24 of allied health professionals needed to support the health

1 care system of the United States in this decade and be-  
 2 yond.

3 **SEC. 3. AMENDMENT TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE**

4 **ACT.**

5 Title VII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.  
 6 292 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
 7 lowing:

8 **“PART G—ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS**

9 **“SEC. 799C. DEFINITIONS.**

10 “In this part:

11 “(1) ALLIED HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM.—

12 The term ‘allied health education program’ means  
 13 any postsecondary educational program offered by  
 14 an institution accredited by an agency or commission  
 15 recognized by the Department of Education, or lead-  
 16 ing to a State certificate or license or any other edu-  
 17 cational program approved by the Secretary. Such  
 18 term includes colleges, universities, or schools of al-  
 19 lied health and equivalent entities that include pro-  
 20 grams leading to a certificate, associate, baccalaureate,  
 21 or graduate level degree in an allied health  
 22 profession.

23 “(2) ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS.—The

24 term ‘allied health professions’ includes professions

1 in the following areas at the certificate, associate,  
2 baccalaureate, or graduate level:

3 “(A) Dental hygiene.

4 “(B) Dietetics or nutrition.

5 “(C) Emergency medical services.

6 “(D) Health information management.

7 “(E) Clinical laboratory sciences and med-  
8 ical technology.

9 “(F) Cytotechnology.

10 “(G) Occupational therapy.

11 “(H) Physical therapy.

12 “(I) Radiologic technology.

13 “(J) Nuclear medical technology.

14 “(K) Rehabilitation counseling.

15 “(L) Respiratory therapy.

16 “(M) Speech-language pathology and audi-  
17 ology.

18 “(N) Any other profession determined ap-  
19 propriate by the Secretary.

20 “(3) HEALTH CARE FACILITY.—The term  
21 ‘health care facility’ means an outpatient health care  
22 facility, hospital, nursing home, home health care  
23 agency, hospice, federally qualified health center,  
24 nurse managed health center, rural health clinic,

1 public health clinic, or any similar healthcare facility  
2 or practice that employs allied health professionals.

3 **“SEC. 799C-1. PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

4 “The Secretary shall develop and issue public service  
5 announcements that shall—

6 “(1) advertise and promote the allied health  
7 professions;

8 “(2) highlight the advantages and rewards of  
9 the allied health professions; and

10 “(3) encourage individuals from diverse commu-  
11 nities and backgrounds to enter the allied health  
12 professions.

13 **“SEC. 799C-2. STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICE AN-  
14 NOUNCEMENTS.**

15 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award  
16 grants to designated eligible entities to support State and  
17 local advertising campaigns that are conducted through  
18 appropriate media outlets (as determined by the Sec-  
19 retary) to—

20 “(1) promote the allied health professions;

21 “(2) highlight the advantages and rewards of  
22 the allied health professions; and

23 “(3) encourage individuals from disadvantaged  
24 communities and backgrounds to enter the allied  
25 health professions.

1 “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—To be eligible to receive a  
2 grant under subsection (a), an entity shall—

3 “(1) be a professional, national, or State allied  
4 health association, State health care provider, or as-  
5 sociation of one or more health care facilities, allied  
6 health education programs, or other entities that  
7 provides similar services or serves a like function;  
8 and

9 “(2) prepare and submit to the Secretary an  
10 application at such time, in such manner, and con-  
11 taining such information as the Secretary may re-  
12 quire.

13 **“SEC. 799C-3. ALLIED HEALTH RECRUITMENT GRANT PRO-**  
14 **GRAM.**

15 “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary shall  
16 award grants to eligible entities to increase allied health  
17 professions education opportunities.

18 “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—To be eligible to receive a  
19 grant under subsection (a), an entity shall—

20 “(1) be a professional, national, or State allied  
21 health association, State health care provider, or as-  
22 sociation of one or more health care facilities, allied  
23 health education programs, or other eligible entities  
24 that provides similar services or serves a like func-  
25 tion; and

1           “(2) prepare and submit to the Secretary an  
2 application at such time, in such manner, and con-  
3 taining such information as the Secretary may re-  
4 quire.

5           “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—An entity shall use amounts  
6 received under a grant under subsection (a) to—

7           “(1) support outreach programs at elementary  
8 and secondary schools that inform guidance coun-  
9 selors and students of education opportunities re-  
10 garding the allied health professions;

11           “(2) carry out special projects to increase allied  
12 health education opportunities for individuals who  
13 are from disadvantaged backgrounds (including ra-  
14 cial and ethnic minorities that are underrepresented  
15 among the allied health professions) by providing  
16 student scholarships or stipends, pre-entry prepara-  
17 tion, and retention activities;

18           “(3) provide assistance to public and nonprofit  
19 private educational institutions to support remedial  
20 education programs for allied health students who  
21 require assistance with math, science, English, and  
22 medical terminology;

23           “(4) meet the costs of child care and transpor-  
24 tation for individuals who are taking part in an al-  
25 lied health education program at any level; and

1           “(5) support community-based partnerships  
2 seeking to recruit allied health professionals in rural  
3 communities and medically underserved urban com-  
4 munities, and other communities experiencing an al-  
5 lied health professions shortage.

6 **“SEC. 799C-4. GRANTS FOR HEALTH CAREER ACADEMIES.**

7           “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award  
8 grants to eligible entities to assist such entities in collabo-  
9 rating to carry out programs that form education pipelines  
10 to facilitate the entry of students of secondary educational  
11 institutions, especially underrepresented racial and ethnic  
12 minorities, into careers in the allied health professions.

13           “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—To be eligible to receive a  
14 grant under subsection (a), an entity shall—

15           “(1) be an institution that offers allied health  
16 education programs, a health care facility, or a sec-  
17 ondary educational institution; and

18           “(2) prepare and submit to the Secretary an  
19 application at such time, in such manner, and con-  
20 taining such information as the Secretary may re-  
21 quire.

1 **“SEC. 799C-5. ALLIED HEALTH EDUCATION, PRACTICE, AND**  
2 **RETENTION GRANTS.**

3 “(a) EDUCATION PRIORITY AREAS.—The Secretary  
4 may award grants to or enter into contracts with eligible  
5 entities to—

6 “(1) expand the enrollment of individuals in al-  
7 lied health education programs, especially the enroll-  
8 ment of underrepresented racial and ethnic minority  
9 students; and

10 “(2) provide education through new tech-  
11 nologies and methods, including distance-learning  
12 methodologies.

13 “(b) PRACTICE PRIORITY AREAS.—The Secretary  
14 may award grants to or enter into contracts with eligible  
15 entities to—

16 “(1) establish or expand allied health practice  
17 arrangements in noninstitutional settings to dem-  
18 onstrate methods to improve access to primary  
19 health care in rural areas and other medically under-  
20 served communities;

21 “(2) provide care for underserved populations  
22 and other high-risk groups such as the elderly, indi-  
23 viduals with HIV/AIDS, substance abusers, the  
24 homeless, and victims of domestic violence;

25 “(3) provide managed care, information man-  
26 agement, quality improvement, and other skills need-

1 ed to practice in existing and emerging organized  
2 health care systems; or

3 “(4) develop generational and cultural com-  
4 petencies among allied health professionals.

5 “(c) RETENTION PRIORITY AREAS.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award  
7 grants to and enter into contracts with eligible enti-  
8 ties to enhance the allied health professions work-  
9 force by initiating and maintaining allied health re-  
10 tention programs described in paragraph (2) or (3).

11 “(2) GRANTS FOR CAREER LADDER PRO-  
12 GRAMS.—The Secretary may award grants to and  
13 enter into contracts with eligible entities for pro-  
14 grams—

15 “(A) to promote career advancement for  
16 allied health personnel in a variety of training  
17 settings, cross training or specialty training  
18 among diverse population groups, and the ad-  
19 vancement of individuals; and

20 “(B) to assist individuals in obtaining the  
21 education and training required to enter the al-  
22 lied health professions and advance within such  
23 professions, such as by providing career coun-  
24 seling and mentoring.

1           “(3) ENHANCING PATIENT CARE DELIVERY  
2 SYSTEMS.—

3           “(A) GRANTS.—The Secretary may award  
4 grants to eligible entities to improve the reten-  
5 tion of allied health professionals and to en-  
6 hance patient care that is directly related to al-  
7 lied health activities by enhancing collaboration  
8 and communication among allied health profes-  
9 sionals and other health care professionals, and  
10 by promoting allied health involvement in the  
11 organizational and clinical decision-making  
12 processes of a health care facility.

13           “(B) PREFERENCE.—In making awards of  
14 grants under this paragraph, the Secretary  
15 shall give preferences to applicants that have  
16 not previously received an award under this  
17 paragraph and to applicants from rural, under-  
18 served areas.

19           “(C) CONTINUATION OF AN AWARD.—The  
20 Secretary shall make continuation of any award  
21 under this paragraph beyond the second year of  
22 such award contingent on the recipient of such  
23 award having demonstrated to the Secretary  
24 measurable and substantive improvement in al-  
25 lied health personnel retention or patient care.

1 “(d) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—To be eligible to receive a  
2 grant under this section, an entity shall—

3 “(1) be a health care facility, or any partner-  
4 ship or coalition containing a health care facility or  
5 allied health education program; and

6 “(2) prepare and submit to the Secretary an  
7 application at such time, in such manner, and con-  
8 taining such information as the Secretary may re-  
9 quire.

10 **“SEC. 799C-6. DEVELOPING MODELS AND BEST PRACTICES**  
11 **PROGRAM.**

12 “(a) **AUTHORIZED.**—The Secretary shall award  
13 grants to eligible entities to enable such entities to carry  
14 out demonstration programs using models and best prac-  
15 tices in allied health for the purpose of developing innova-  
16 tive strategies or approaches for the retention of allied  
17 health professionals.

18 “(b) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—To be eligible to receive a  
19 grant under this section, an entity shall—

20 “(1) be a health care facility, or any partner-  
21 ship or coalition containing a health care facility or  
22 allied health education program; and

23 “(2) prepare and submit to the Secretary an  
24 application at such time, in such manner, and con-

1       taining such information as the Secretary may re-  
2       quire.

3       “(c) DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS.—In awarding  
4 grants under this section, the Secretary shall ensure that  
5 grantees represent a variety of geographic regions and a  
6 range of different types and sizes of facilities, including  
7 facilities located in rural, urban, and suburban areas.

8       “(d) USE OF FUNDS.—An entity shall use amounts  
9 received under a grant under this section to carry out  
10 demonstration programs of models and best practices in  
11 allied health for the purpose of—

12               “(1) promoting retention and satisfaction of al-  
13       lied health professionals;

14               “(2) promoting opportunities for allied health  
15       professionals to pursue education, career advance-  
16       ment, and organizational recognition; and

17               “(3) developing continuing education programs  
18       that instruct allied health professionals in how to  
19       use emerging medical technologies and how to ad-  
20       dress current and future health care needs.

21       “(e) AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS.—The  
22 Secretary shall award grants to area health education cen-  
23 ters to enable such centers to enter into contracts with  
24 allied health education programs to expand the operation  
25 of area health education centers to work in communities

1 to develop models of excellence for allied health profes-  
2 sionals or to expand any junior and senior high school  
3 mentoring programs to include an allied health professions  
4 mentoring program.

5 **“SEC. 799C-7. ALLIED HEALTH FACULTY LOAN PROGRAM.**

6       “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, acting  
7 through the Administrator of the Health Resources and  
8 Services Administration, may enter into an agreement  
9 with any institution offering an eligible allied health edu-  
10 cation program for the establishment and operation of a  
11 faculty loan fund in accordance with this section (referred  
12 to in this section as the ‘loan fund’), to increase the num-  
13 ber of qualified allied health faculty.

14       “(b) AGREEMENTS.—Each agreement entered into  
15 under this section shall—

16               “(1) provide for the establishment of a loan  
17 fund by the institution offering the allied health edu-  
18 cation program involved;

19               “(2) provide for deposit in the loan fund of—

20                       “(A) the Federal capital contributions to  
21 the fund;

22                       “(B) an amount provided by the institution  
23 involved which shall be equal to not less than  
24 one-ninth of the amount of the Federal capital  
25 contribution under subparagraph (A);

1           “(C) any collections of principal and inter-  
2           est on loans made from the fund; and

3           “(D) any other earnings of the fund;

4           “(3) provide that the loan fund will be used  
5           only for the provision of loans to faculty of the allied  
6           health education program in accordance with sub-  
7           section (c) and for the costs of the collection of such  
8           loans and the interest thereon;

9           “(4) provide that loans may be made from such  
10          fund only to faculty who are pursuing a full-time  
11          course of study or, at the discretion of the Secretary,  
12          a part-time course of study in an advanced degree  
13          program; and

14          “(5) contain such other provisions determined  
15          appropriate by the Secretary to protect the financial  
16          interests of the United States.

17          “(c) LOAN PROVISIONS.—Loans from any faculty  
18          loan fund established pursuant to an agreement under this  
19          section shall be made to an individual on such terms and  
20          conditions as the allied health education program may de-  
21          termine, except that—

22                 “(1) such terms and conditions are subject to  
23                 any conditions, limitations, and requirements pre-  
24                 scribed by the Secretary;

1           “(2) in the case of any individual, the total of  
2           the loans for any academic year made by an allied  
3           health education program from loan funds estab-  
4           lished pursuant to agreements under this section  
5           may not exceed \$30,000, plus any amount deter-  
6           mined by the Secretary on an annual basis to reflect  
7           inflation;

8           “(3) upon completion by the individual of each  
9           of the first, second, and third year of full-time em-  
10          ployment, as required under the loan agreement, as  
11          a faculty member in an allied health education pro-  
12          gram, the program shall cancel 20 percent of the  
13          principal and interest due on the amount of the un-  
14          paid portion of the loan on the first day of such em-  
15          ployment;

16          “(4) upon completion by the individual of the  
17          fourth year of full-time employment, as required  
18          under the loan agreement, as a faculty member in  
19          an allied health education program, the program  
20          shall cancel 25 percent of the principal and interest  
21          due on the amount of the unpaid portion of the loan  
22          on the first day of such employment;

23          “(5) the loan may be used to pay the cost of  
24          tuition, fees, books, laboratory expenses, and other  
25          reasonable education expenses;

1           “(6) the loan shall be repayable in equal or  
2           graduated periodic installments (with the right of  
3           the borrower to accelerate repayment) over the 10-  
4           year period that begins 9 months after the individual  
5           ceases to pursue a course of study in an allied health  
6           education program; and

7           “(7) such loan shall—

8                   “(A) beginning on the date that is 3  
9                   months after the individual ceases to pursue a  
10                  course of study in an allied health education  
11                  program, bear interest on the unpaid balance of  
12                  the loan at the rate of 3 percent per year; or

13                   “(B) subject to subsection (e), if the allied  
14                  health education program determines that the  
15                  individual will not complete such course of  
16                  study or serve as a faculty member as required  
17                  under the loan agreement under this subsection,  
18                  bear interest on the unpaid balance of the loan  
19                  at the prevailing market rate.

20           “(d) PAYMENT OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE.—Where  
21 all or any part of a loan (including interest thereon) is  
22 canceled under this section, the Secretary shall pay to the  
23 allied health education program involved an amount equal  
24 to the program’s proportionate share of the canceled por-  
25 tion, as determined by the Secretary.

1       “(e) REVIEW BY SECRETARY.—At the request of the  
2 individual involved, the Secretary may review any deter-  
3 mination by an allied health education program under this  
4 section.

5       **“SEC. 799C-8. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR SERVICE IN**  
6                               **RURAL AND OTHER MEDICALLY UNDER-**  
7                               **SERVED AREAS.**

8       “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary shall  
9 establish a scholarship program (referred to in this section  
10 as the ‘program’) to provide scholarships to individuals  
11 seeking allied health education who agree to provide serv-  
12 ice in rural and other medically underserved areas with  
13 allied health personnel shortages.

14       “(b) PREFERENCE.—In awarding scholarships under  
15 this section, the Secretary shall give preference to—

16               “(1) applicants who demonstrate the greatest  
17 financial need;

18               “(2) applicants who agree to serve in health  
19 care facilities experiencing allied health shortages in  
20 rural and other medically underserved areas;

21               “(3) applicants who are currently working in a  
22 health care facility who agree to serve the period of  
23 obligated service at such facility;

24               “(4) minority applicants; and

1           “(5) applicants with an interest in a practice  
2 area of allied health that has unmet needs.

3           “(c) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—

4           “(1) CONTRACTS.—Under the program, the  
5 Secretary shall enter into contracts with eligible in-  
6 dividuals under which such individuals agree to serve  
7 as allied health professionals for a period of not less  
8 than 2 years at a health care facility with a critical  
9 shortage of allied health professionals in consider-  
10 ation of the Federal Government agreeing to provide  
11 to the individuals scholarships for attendance in an  
12 allied health education program.

13           “(2) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.—In this sub-  
14 section, the term ‘eligible individual’ means an indi-  
15 vidual who is enrolled or accepted for enrollment as  
16 a full-time or part-time student in an allied health  
17 education program.

18           “(3) SERVICE REQUIREMENT.—

19           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may  
20 not enter into a contract with an eligible indi-  
21 vidual under this section unless the individual  
22 agrees to serve as an allied health professional  
23 at a health care facility with a critical shortage  
24 of allied health professionals for a period of  
25 full-time service of not less than 2 years, or for

1 a period of part-time service in accordance with  
2 subparagraph (B).

3 “(B) PART-TIME SERVICE.—An individual  
4 may complete the period of service described in  
5 subparagraph (A) on a part-time basis if the in-  
6 dividual has a written agreement that—

7 “(i) is entered into by the facility and  
8 the individual and is approved by the Sec-  
9 retary; and

10 “(ii) provides that the period of obli-  
11 gated service will be extended so that the  
12 aggregate amount of service performed will  
13 equal the amount of service that would be  
14 performed through a period of full-time  
15 service of not less than 2 years.

16 “(d) REPORTS.—Not later than 18 months after the  
17 date of enactment of this part, and annually thereafter,  
18 the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the appropriate  
19 committees of Congress a report describing the program  
20 carried out under this section, including statements re-  
21 garding—

22 “(1) the number of enrollees by specialty or dis-  
23 cipline, scholarships, and grant recipients;

24 “(2) the number of graduates;

25 “(3) the amount of scholarship payments made;

1           “(4) which educational institution the recipients  
2 attended;

3           “(5) the number and placement location of the  
4 scholarship recipients at health care facilities with a  
5 critical shortage of allied health professionals;

6           “(6) the default rate and actions required;

7           “(7) the amount of outstanding default funds of  
8 the scholarship program;

9           “(8) to the extent that it can be determined,  
10 the reason for the default;

11           “(9) the demographics of the individuals par-  
12 ticipating in the scholarship program; and

13           “(10) an evaluation of the overall costs and  
14 benefits of the program.

15 **“SEC. 799C-9. GRANTS FOR CLINICAL EDUCATION, INTERN-**  
16 **SHIP, AND RESIDENCY PROGRAMS.**

17           “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary shall  
18 award grants to eligible entities to develop clinical edu-  
19 cation, internship, and residency programs that encourage  
20 mentoring and the development of specialties.

21           “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible for a grant  
22 under this section an entity shall—

23           “(1) be a partnership of an allied health edu-  
24 cation program and a health care facility; and

1           “(2) prepare and submit to the Secretary an  
2           application at such time, in such manner, and con-  
3           taining such information as the Secretary may re-  
4           quire.

5           “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity shall use  
6           amounts received under a grant under this section to—

7           “(1) develop clinical education, internship, and  
8           residency programs and curriculum and training  
9           programs for graduates of an allied health education  
10          program;

11          “(2) provide support for faculty and mentors;  
12          and

13          “(3) provide support for allied health profes-  
14          sionals participating in clinical education, internship,  
15          and residency programs on both a full-time and  
16          part-time basis.

17   **“SEC. 799C-10. GRANTS FOR PARTNERSHIPS.**

18          “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award  
19          grants to eligible entities to enable such entities to form  
20          partnerships to carry out the activities described in this  
21          section.

22          “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—To be eligible to receive a  
23          grant under this section, an entity shall—

24                  “(1) be a partnership between an allied health  
25                  education program and a health care facility; and

1           “(2) prepare and submit to the Secretary an  
2 application at such time, in such manner, and con-  
3 taining such information as the Secretary may re-  
4 quire.

5           “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity shall use  
6 amounts received under a grant under this section to—

7           “(1) provide employees of the health care facil-  
8 ity that is a member of the partnership involved ad-  
9 vanced training and education in a allied health edu-  
10 cation program;

11           “(2) establish or expand allied health practice  
12 arrangements in non-institutional settings to dem-  
13 onstrate methods to improve access to health care in  
14 rural and other medically underserved communities;

15           “(3) purchase distance learning technology to  
16 extend general education and training programs to  
17 rural areas, and to extend specialty education and  
18 training programs to all areas; and

19           “(4) establish or expand mentoring, clinical  
20 education, and internship programs for training in  
21 specialty care areas.

22 **“SEC. 799C-11. ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS TRAINING**  
23 **FOR DIVERSITY.**

24           “The Secretary, acting in conjunction with allied  
25 health professional associations, shall develop a system for

1 collecting and analyzing allied health workforce data gath-  
2 ered by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Health Re-  
3 sources and Services Administration, other entities within  
4 the Department of Health and Human Services, the De-  
5 partment of Veterans Affairs, the Center for Medicare &  
6 Medicaid Services, the Department of Defense, allied  
7 health professional associations, and regional centers for  
8 health workforce studies to determine educational pipeline  
9 and practitioner shortages, and project future needs for  
10 such a workforce.

11 **“SEC. 799C-12. ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS TRAINING**  
12 **FOR DIVERSITY.**

13 “The Secretary shall include schools of allied health  
14 among the health professions schools that are eligible to  
15 receive grants under this part for the purpose of assisting  
16 such schools in supporting Centers of Excellence in health  
17 professions education for under-represented minority indi-  
18 viduals.

19 **“SEC. 799C-13. REPORTS BY GENERAL ACCOUNTING OF-**  
20 **FICE.**

21 “Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment  
22 of this part, the Comptroller General of the United States  
23 shall conduct an evaluation of whether the programs car-  
24 ried out under this part have demonstrably increased the  
25 number of applicants to allied health education programs

1 and prepare and submit to the appropriate committees of  
2 Congress a report concerning the results of such evalua-  
3 tion.

4 **“SEC. 799C-14. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

5       “There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
6 this part, such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal  
7 years 2006 through 2011.”.

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