

111TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3133

To provide for the construction, renovation, and improvement of medical school facilities, and other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 17, 2010

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. SPECTER) 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 provide for the construction, renovation, and improvement of medical school facilities, and 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 “Medical School Con-  
5 struction Grant Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) Construction employment declined by  
9 53,000 in December 2009, and has fallen by

1 1,600,000 since the economic downturn began, ac-  
2 cording to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

3 (2) By 2020, the United States will face a  
4 shortage of about 85,000 physicians, due in part to  
5 the aging population, according to the Council on  
6 Graduate Medical Education.

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

14 (4) The Association of American Medical Col-  
15 leges has called for increased enrollment at Liaison  
16 Committee on Medical Education accredited schools  
17 from 15 to 30 percent over the 2002 levels by 2015.  
18 This increase would boost the number of graduates  
19 to about 20,000.

20 (5) The Federal Government has not supported  
21 significant construction of medical schools since the  
22 1960s and 1970s.

23 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

24 In this Act:

1           (1) MEDICAL SCHOOL.—The term “medical  
2           school” means any 4-year allopathic or osteopathic  
3           medical school.

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

6 **SEC. 4. GRANTS.**

7           (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a  
8           program to award grants to eligible medical schools for  
9           the purpose of constructing, renovating, or improving  
10          medical school facilities to increase the supply of physi-  
11          cians.

12          (b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant  
13          under subsection (a), a medical school shall—

14               (1) be accredited by the Association of Amer-  
15               ican Medical Colleges;

16               (2) submit to the Secretary an application at  
17               such time, in such manner, and containing such in-  
18               formation as the Secretary may require; and

19               (3) provide assurances that the medical school  
20               will ensure accountability and transparency in ex-  
21               pending grant funds.

22          (c) USE OF FUNDS.—An entity shall use amounts re-  
23          ceived under a grant under subsection (a) to construct new  
24          medical school facilities or renovate or improve existing

1 medical school facilities to increase the supply of physi-  
2 cians.

3 (d) ALLOCATION.—The Secretary shall allocate  
4 amounts appropriated to carry out this section among  
5 medical schools based on the following:

6 (1) First priority in awarding grants shall be  
7 given to new medical schools that are accredited to  
8 admit students beginning with academic years 2009  
9 through 2014.

10 (2) Priority in awarding grants shall be given  
11 to medical schools that seek to establish a new  
12 branch of an existing school.

13 (3) Priority in awarding grants shall be given  
14 to medical schools that serve one or more medically  
15 underserved populations designated under section  
16 330(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.  
17 254b(b)).

18 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

19 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
20 this section \$500,000,000 for fiscal years 2010 through  
21 2014.

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