

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1575

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a demonstration program to increase the number of doctorally-prepared nurse faculty.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 29, 2005

Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CORZINE, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. INOUYE) 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 authorize a demonstration program to increase the number of doctorally-prepared nurse faculty.

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 “Nurse Faculty Edu-  
5 cation Act of 2005”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

1           (1) The Nurse Reinvestment Act (Public Law  
2           107–205) has helped to support students preparing  
3           to be nurse educators. Yet, nursing schools nation-  
4           wide are forced to deny admission to individuals due  
5           to lack of qualified nurse faculty.

6           (2) According to the February 2004 Monthly  
7           Labor Review of the Bureau of Labor Statistics,  
8           more than 1,000,000 new and replacement nurses  
9           will be needed by 2012.

10          (3) According to the American Association of  
11          Colleges of Nursing, in the 2004–2005 academic  
12          year, 29,425 individuals, or 35 percent of the quali-  
13          fied applicants were not accepted into nursing bacca-  
14          laureate programs. 2,748 potential nursing master’s  
15          students and over 200 nurses qualified for admission  
16          to doctoral programs were not accepted. Estimates  
17          from the National League of Nursing indicate that  
18          over 123,000 qualified applications could not be ac-  
19          commodated in associate degree, diploma, and bac-  
20          calaureate registered nurse educational programs in  
21          2004.

22          (4) Seventy-six percent of schools report insuffi-  
23          cient faculty as the primary reason for not accepting  
24          qualified applicants. The primary reasons for lack of  
25          faculty are lack of funds to hire new faculty, inabil-



1 **“SEC. 832. NURSE FACULTY EDUCATION.**

2       “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, acting  
3 through the Health Resources and Services Administra-  
4 tion, shall establish a Nurse Faculty Education Program  
5 to ensure an adequate supply of nurse faculty through the  
6 awarding of grants to eligible entities to—

7           “(1) provide support for the hiring of new fac-  
8 ulty, the retaining of existing faculty, and the pur-  
9 chase of educational resources;

10          “(2) provide for increasing enrollment and  
11 graduation rates for students from doctoral pro-  
12 grams; and

13          “(3) assist graduates from the entity in serving  
14 as nurse faculty in schools of nursing;

15       “(b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant  
16 under subsection (a), an entity shall—

17           “(1) be a school of nursing that offers a doc-  
18 toral degree in nursing in a State or territory;

19           “(2) submit to the Secretary an application at  
20 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-  
21 formation as the Secretary may require;

22           “(3) develop and implement a plan in accord-  
23 ance with subsection (c);

24           “(4) agree to submit an annual report to the  
25 Secretary that includes updated information on the

1       doctoral program involved, including information  
2       with respect to—

3               “(A) student enrollment;

4               “(B) student retention;

5               “(C) graduation rates;

6               “(D) the number of graduates employed  
7       part-time or full-time in a nursing faculty posi-  
8       tion; and

9               “(E) retention in nursing faculty positions  
10       within 1 year and 2 years of employment;

11              “(5) agree to permit the Secretary to make on-  
12       site inspections, and to comply with the requests of  
13       the Secretary for information, to determine the ex-  
14       tent to which the school is complying with the re-  
15       quirements of this section; and

16              “(6) meet such other requirements as deter-  
17       mined appropriate by the Secretary.

18       “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—Not later than 1 year after  
19       the receipt of a grant under this section, an entity shall  
20       develop and implement a plan for using amounts received  
21       under this grant in a manner that establishes not less than  
22       2 of the following:

23              “(1) Partnering opportunities with practice and  
24       academic institutions to facilitate doctoral education

1 and research experiences that are mutually bene-  
2 ficial.

3 “(2) Partnering opportunities with educational  
4 institutions to facilitate the hiring of graduates from  
5 the entity into nurse faculty, prior to, and upon  
6 completion of the program.

7 “(3) Partnering opportunities with nursing  
8 schools to place students into internship programs  
9 which provide hands-on opportunity to learn about  
10 the nurse faculty role.

11 “(4) Cooperative education programs among  
12 schools of nursing to share use of technological re-  
13 sources and distance learning technologies that serve  
14 rural students and underserved areas.

15 “(5) Opportunities for minority and diverse stu-  
16 dent populations (including aging nurses in clinical  
17 roles) interested in pursuing doctoral education.

18 “(6) Pre-entry preparation opportunities includ-  
19 ing programs that assist returning students in  
20 standardized test preparation, use of information  
21 technology, and the statistical tools necessary for  
22 program enrollment.

23 “(7) A nurse faculty mentoring program.

1           “(8) A Registered Nurse baccalaureate to Ph.  
2           D. program to expedite the completion of a doctoral  
3           degree and entry to nurse faculty role.

4           “(9) Career path opportunities for 2nd degree  
5           students to become nurse faculty.

6           “(10) Marketing outreach activities to attract  
7           students committed to becoming nurse faculty.

8           “(d) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-  
9           tion, the Secretary shall give priority to entities from  
10          States and territories that have a lower number of em-  
11          ployed nurses per 100,000 population.

12          “(e) NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—Grants  
13          under this section shall be awarded as follows:

14                 “(1) In fiscal year 2006, the Secretary shall  
15                 award 10 grants of \$100,000 each.

16                 “(2) In fiscal year 2007, the Secretary shall  
17                 award an additional 10 grants of \$100,000 each and  
18                 provide continued funding for the existing grantees  
19                 under paragraph (1) in the amount of \$100,000  
20                 each.

21                 “(3) In fiscal year 2008, the Secretary shall  
22                 award an additional 10 grants of \$100,000 each and  
23                 provide continued funding for the existing grantees  
24                 under paragraphs (1) and (2) in the amount of  
25                 \$100,000 each.

1           “(4) In fiscal year 2009, the Secretary shall  
2 provide continued funding for each of the existing  
3 grantees under paragraphs (1) through (3) in the  
4 amount of \$100,000 each.

5           “(5) In fiscal year 2010, the Secretary shall  
6 provide continued funding for each of the existing  
7 grantees under paragraphs (1) through (3) in the  
8 amount of \$100,000 each.

9           “(f) LIMITATIONS.—

10           “(1) PAYMENT.—Payments to an entity under  
11 a grant under this section shall be for a period of  
12 not to exceed 5 years.

13           “(2) IMPROPER USE OF FUNDS.—An entity  
14 that fails to use amounts received under a grant  
15 under this section as provided for in subsection (c)  
16 shall, at the discretion of the Secretary, be required  
17 to remit to the Federal Government not less than 80  
18 percent of the amounts received under the grant.

19           “(g) REPORTS.—

20           “(1) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall con-  
21 duct an evaluation of the results of the activities car-  
22 ried out under grants under this section.

23           “(2) REPORTS.—Not later than 3 years after  
24 the date of the enactment of this section, the Sec-  
25 retary shall submit to Congress an interim report on

1 the results of the evaluation conducted under para-  
2 graph (1). Not later than 6 months after the end of  
3 the program under this section, the Secretary shall  
4 submit to Congress a final report on the results of  
5 such evaluation.

6 “(h) STUDY.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years  
8 after the date of the enactment of this section, the  
9 Comptroller General of the United States shall con-  
10 duct a study and submit a report to Congress con-  
11 cerning activities to increase participation in the  
12 nurse educator program under the section.

13 “(2) CONTENTS.—The report under paragraph  
14 (1) shall include the following:

15 “(A) An examination of the capacity of  
16 nursing schools to meet workforce needs on a  
17 nationwide basis.

18 “(B) An analysis and discussion of sus-  
19 tainability options for continuing programs be-  
20 yond the initial funding period.

21 “(C) An examination and understanding of  
22 the doctoral degree programs that are success-  
23 ful in placing graduates as faculty in schools of  
24 nursing.

1           “(D) An analysis of program design under  
2           this section and the impact of such design on  
3           nurse faculty retention and workforce short-  
4           ages.

5           “(E) An analysis of compensation dispari-  
6           ties between nursing clinical practitioners and  
7           nurse faculty and between higher education  
8           nurse faculty and higher education faculty over-  
9           all.

10           “(F) Recommendations to enhance faculty  
11           retention and the nursing workforce.

12           “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

13           “(1) IN GENERAL.—For the costs of carrying  
14           out this section (except the costs described in para-  
15           graph (2), there are authorized to be appropriated  
16           \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2006, \$2,000,000 for fis-  
17           cal year 2007, and \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal  
18           years 2008 through 2010.

19           “(2) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—For the costs of  
20           administering this section, including the costs of  
21           evaluating the results of grants and submitting re-  
22           ports to the Congress, there are authorized to be ap-  
23           propriated such sums as may be necessary for each  
24           of fiscal years 2006 through 2010.”.

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