

Bill Cassidy, M.D., #5

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To establish a pilot program for purposes of awarding grants and contracts to certain associate degree nursing programs under the nurse education, practice, quality, and retention grant program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—118th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. 2840

To improve access to and the quality of primary health care, expand the health workforce, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. CASSIDY

Viz:

- 1 Strike section 205 and insert the following:
- 2 **SEC. 205. NURSE EDUCATION, PRACTICE, QUALITY, AND RE-**
- 3 **TENTION GRANTS AND CONTRACTS.**

4 Section 831 of the Public Health Service Act (42
5 U.S.C. 296p) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing:

7 “(g) PILOT PROGRAM.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-
9 lish a 2-year pilot program under which the Sec-
10 retary may award grants to, and enter into contracts
11 with, schools of nursing offering associate degrees

1 that otherwise meet the criteria for receiving a grant
2 or contract under this section, for the purpose of
3 promoting career advancement for individuals, in-
4 cluding licensed practical nurses, licensed vocational
5 nurses, certified nurse assistants, home health aides,
6 and other health professionals, such as health aides
7 or community health practitioners certified under
8 the Community Health Aide Program of the Indian
9 Health Service under section 119 of the Indian
10 Health Care Improvement Act, by supporting such
11 individuals in becoming registered nurses with asso-
12 ciate degrees.

13 “(2) CRITERIA; REQUIREMENTS.—With respect
14 to grants and contracts awarded under this sub-
15 section, the Secretary shall use the same criteria (ex-
16 cept as otherwise provided in paragraph (1)) as
17 apply to other grants and contracts awarded under
18 this section, and entities receiving such grants or
19 contracts shall be subject to the same requirements
20 (except as otherwise provided in paragraph (1)) as
21 apply to other grant and contract recipients under
22 this section.

23 “(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
24 To carry out this subsection, there are authorized to

1 be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for
2 the period of fiscal years 2024 and 2025.”.