

Public Law 100-97
100th Congress

An Act

To provide grants to support excellence in minority health professions education.

Aug. 18, 1987

[S. 769]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Excellence in Minority Health Education and Care Act".

Excellence in
Minority Health
Education and
Care Act.
42 USC 201 note.

FINDINGS AND PURPOSES

SEC. 2. (a) The Congress makes the following findings:

42 USC 295g-8a
note.

- (1) Minority health care needs are currently greater than the health care needs of the general population.
- (2) While the number of health professionals has increased, there are still shortages of health professionals from minority groups and there has been a drop in the enrollment of minority individuals in some health professions education programs.
- (3) Health professionals from minority groups have critical roles in serving low-income minority populations, particularly in inner-city areas and rural areas.
- (4) Historically, minority schools have developed a special capacity to conduct activities to prepare health professionals to serve minority populations.
- (5) Health professions schools which train a disproportionate number of minority students also provide a disproportionate amount of health care services to minority populations.
- (6) A disproportionate number of minority students trained at the schools described in paragraph (5) choose to practice in underserved areas.
- (7) In the United States—
 - (A) there are only 4 schools of medicine, 2 schools of dentistry, and 4 schools of pharmacy which focus predominantly on minority health professions education, and 40 percent of black physicians, 50 percent of all black dentists, and 25 percent of all black pharmacists have trained at one of those schools; and
 - (B) there is only 1 school of veterinary medicine which focuses predominantly on the training of minority students, and that school has trained 75 percent of all black veterinarians.

(b) The purposes of this Act are to—

- (1) strengthen the national capacity to train minority students in the health professions; and
- (2) support the health professions schools which have trained a significant number of the Nation's minority health professionals and enable those schools to supply health professionals to serve minority populations in underserved areas.

ASSISTANCE

SEC. 3. Part F of title VII of the Public Health Service Act is amended by inserting before section 788B the following new section:

"GRANTS FOR MINORITY EDUCATION

"SEC. 788A. (a) The Secretary shall make grants to health professions schools to assist such schools in supporting programs of excellence in health professions education for minority individuals. A grant under this section shall be used by a health professions school to—

Schools and
colleges.
42 USC 295g-8a.

"(1) develop a plan to achieve institutional improvements, including financial independence, to enable such school to support programs of excellence in health professions education for minority individuals;

"(2) improve the capacity of such school to recruit and retain faculty;

Libraries.

"(3) provide improved access to the library and information resources of such school;

"(4) establish, strengthen, or expand programs to enhance the academic performance of students in such school;

"(5) establish, strengthen, or expand programs to increase the number and quality of applicants for admission to such school; and

"(6) develop curricula and carry out faculty training programs in order to enable such school to become, for the Nation's health care providers, a resource with respect to the health problems of minority communities, such as higher infant mortality rates and higher incidences of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome.

"(b) No grant may be made under this section unless an application therefor has been submitted to the Secretary at such time, in such form, and containing such information, as the Secretary may by regulation prescribe.

"(c) In order to be eligible for a grant under this section, a health professions school must—

"(1) be a school described in section 701(4); and

"(2) have received a contract under section 788B for fiscal year 1987.

"(d) To carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 1988 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1989, 1990, and 1991."

42 USC 292a.
Contracts.
42 USC 295g-8b.
Appropriation
authorization.

Approved August 18, 1987.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 769:

SENATE REPORTS: No. 100-110 (Comm. on Labor and Human Resources).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 133 (1987):

July 21, considered and passed Senate.

Aug. 4, considered and passed House.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 23 (1987):

Aug. 19, Presidential statement.