



(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to reduce barriers to immigrants becoming nurses or allied health professionals in the United States, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. SMITH of Washington introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to reduce barriers to immigrants becoming nurses or allied health professionals in the United States, and for 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 “Immigrants in Nursing  
5 and Allied Health Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO REDUCE BARRIERS TO IMMIGRANTS**  
2 **BECOMING NURSES OR ALLIED HEALTH PRO-**  
3 **FESSIONALS.**

4 Title VII of the Public Health Service Act is amended  
5 by inserting after section 755 of such Act (42 U.S.C.  
6 294e) the following:

7 **“SEC. 755A. GRANTS TO REDUCE BARRIERS TO IMMI-**  
8 **GRANTS BECOMING NURSES OR ALLIED**  
9 **HEALTH PROFESSIONALS.**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award grants  
11 to State, local, and Tribal governments and private orga-  
12 nizations to reduce barriers to becoming nurses or allied  
13 health professionals in the United States for individuals  
14 who are—

15 “(1) lawfully admitted for permanent residence;

16 “(2) admitted as a refugee under section 207 of  
17 the Immigration and Nationality Act;

18 “(3) granted asylum under section 208 of such  
19 Act; or

20 “(4) an immigrant otherwise authorized to be  
21 employed in the United States.

22 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—A State, local, or Tribal gov-  
23 ernment receiving a grant under this section shall use the  
24 grant to reduce barriers described in subsection (a), which  
25 may include—

26 “(1) paying the costs of—

1           “(A) education or training to become a  
2           nurse or allied health professional; and

3           “(B) licensing or certification, including  
4           the costs of preparing for and taking any exam-  
5           ination applicable to the nursing or allied health  
6           profession selected by the individual;

7           “(2) providing a living stipend to individuals  
8           studying for such examination;

9           “(3) providing classes in English as a second  
10          language; and

11          “(4) assisting in obtaining overseas academic or  
12          training records.”.

13 **SEC. 3. ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN IMMIGRANTS TO SERVE**  
14 **IN NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS.**

15          Section 331 of the Public Health Service Act (42  
16 U.S.C. 254d) is amended—

17           (1) by redesignating subsection (j) as sub-  
18           section (k); and

19           (2) by inserting after subsection (i) the fol-  
20           lowing:

21          “(j) **SERVICE BY IMMIGRANTS.**—Notwithstanding  
22 any provision of law that would otherwise require a mem-  
23 ber of the National Health Service Corps to be a United  
24 States citizen or national, an individual described in sec-  
25 tion 755A(a) may be eligible—

1           “(1) to serve in the National Health Service  
2           Corps; and  
3           “(2) to participate in the National Health Serv-  
4           ice Corps Scholarship Program under section 338A  
5           or the National Health Service Corps Loan Repay-  
6           ment Program under section 338B.”.