

Comparisons of the Senate (S. 1864) and House (H.R. 3487) Nurse Reinvestment Act

	S. 1864	H.R. 3487
<p>Expansion of Loan Repayment</p>	<p>Expands NEA (Section 846(a) of PHSA) to include nursing homes, hospices, home health agencies, nurse-managed health centers, and public health departments as eligible entities where a nursing student can work to meet their obligation for loan repayment.</p> <p>Authorization: No new authorization.</p>	<p>Expands NEA (Section 846(a) of PHSA) to include, private hospitals with a critical shortage of nurses, state or local departments of public health, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospice programs, and ambulatory surgical centers as eligible entities where a nursing student can work to meet their obligation for loan repayment.</p> <p>Allows for profit entities to be eligible for this program, but sunsets this eligibility three years after enactment. Requires GAO to study the differences in the hiring of nurses by nonprofit and for-profit private entities. The report is due two years after enactment.</p>
<p>Scholarships</p>	<p>Establishes a scholarship program for nursing students who agree to work in a shortage area (as defined by Section 846(a)) upon completion on their nursing degree. Scholarship would cover costs associated with tuition and other ‘reasonable expenses’ and a \$400 per month stipend.</p> <p>The Secretary may use the list of entities eligible as loan repayment sites for one year but must replace this with new criteria that takes into account the ratio of available nurses to population, the demonstrated need of a facility, and the use of innovative nurse retention criteria.</p> <p>Requires a report to Congress 18 months after enactment and annually thereafter describing the operations of the scholarship programs and recommendations for modifications.</p> <p>Authorization:\$40 million in 2003, such sums 2004-2007.</p>	<p>Establishes a scholarship program (within Section 846 of PHSA) for nursing students who agree to work in a shortage area (as defined by Section 846(a)) upon completion of their degree.</p>

Recruitment Grants	<p>Establishes a grant program to encourage health care facilities and schools of nursing to offer programs to attract people into the nursing profession. Use of funds includes - outreach to primary and secondary students, pre-entry programs, stipends, remedial education, coverage of dependant care, and programs to attract nurses to medically underserved areas.</p> <p>Authorization:\$10 million in 2003, such sums 2004-2007.</p>	<p>No provision.</p>
Federal Public Awareness	<p>Establishes a federal campaign to support media efforts to enhance the image of the profession of nursing, promote diversity in the workforce, encourage people to enter the nursing profession, and encourage career development for nurses. Funds can be used by state associations, schools of nursing, or health care provider associations.</p> <p>Authorization:\$4 million in 2003, such sums 2004-2007.</p>	<p>Requires HHS to develop and issue public service announcements promoting the nursing profession.</p>
State Public Awareness	<p>Establishes a grant campaign to allow eligible entities (professions state nursing associations, association of health care providers, schools of nursing, and others) to conduct media campaigns with the same goals as the federal campaign.</p> <p>Authorization:\$4 million in 2003, such sums 2004-2007.</p>	<p>Establishes a grant program to allow eligible entities (schools of nursing, nursing centers, academic health centers, state and local governments, and others) to launch media campaigns to promote nursing and inform the public about public assistance for nursing education.</p>
Career Ladder Programs	<p>Establishes grants for health care facilities and schools of nursing to provide scholarships, loan repayments and other supports for people who wish to advance within the nursing profession.</p> <p>Authorization:\$20 million in 2003, such sums 2004-2007.</p>	<p>No provision.</p>
Area Health Education Programs	<p>Authorizes grants to AHECs to allow them to contract with schools of nursing to expand community health services (e.g., school nurses, public health nurses, perinatal outreach,) and to develop nurse mentoring programs in junior and senior high schools.</p> <p>Authorization:\$5 million in 2003, such sums 2004 -2007.</p>	<p>No provision.</p>

<p>Long Term Care Training Grants</p>	<p>Establishes grants to develop and incorporate gerontology curriculum. Funds can be used by schools of nursing, health care facilities, or partnerships of the two to provide training or develop courses in gerontology. Authorization:\$12 million in 2003, such sums 2004-2007.</p>	<p>No provision.</p>
<p>Grants for Internships and Residency Programs</p>	<p>Establishes grants to schools of nursing and health care facilities to develop internship and residency programs to support nursing specialties. Funds can be used to support students and trainers, and to develop curriculum and training programs. Authorization:\$10 million in 2003, such sums 2004 - 2007.</p>	<p>No provision.</p>
<p>Best Practices for Nursing Administration</p>	<p>Authorizes 2 years grants for health care facilities and schools of nursing to implement and evaluate models of best practices for nursing administration. Funds may be used to improve the work environment for nurses, implement nurse retention programs, reduce rates of negative nurse-sensitive patient outcomes, promote continuing nurse education, and to evaluate the effectiveness of these programs. Preference for renewals would be given to Magnet facilities. Authorization:\$10 million in 2003, such sums 2004 - 2007.</p>	<p>No provision.</p>
<p>Fast-Track Faculty Loan</p>	<p>Established a loan repayment program for nursing students who agree to teach at a school of nursing for each year of assistance. Provides for payments up to 85% of the principal and interest on student loans for students obtaining a masters or doctoral degree in nursing. Authorization:\$10 million in 2003, such sums 2004 - 2007.</p>	<p>Requires the GAO to conduct a study to determine whether and to what extent there is a shortage of nursing faculty. Requires this study to be completed by June 30, 2002.</p> <p>If the GAO determines that there is a faculty shortage, the GAO is required to submit a report to Congress containing recommendations for HHS programs to address the shortage. This report would be due on September 30, 2002.</p>

Scholarships and Stipend Program	Establishes a scholarship and stipend program for nursing students who agree to teach at a school of nursing for each year of assistance. Students must be obtaining a masters or doctoral degree in nursing. Scholarship may cover tuition and other expenses, stipend authorized at \$400 per month. Authorization: \$10 million in 2003, such sums 2004 - 2007.	No provision.
National Commission	Establishes the National Commission on the Recruitment and Retention of Nurses to make recommendations on long term strategies to address the nursing shortage, best practices for the recruitment and retention of nurses, factors that impact career satisfaction for nurses, and other matters. The report is due 24 months after the enactment of the legislation. Authorization: \$750,000 for 2002 and 2003.	No provision.
Total Authority	\$135.75 million in 2003, such sums thereafter.	Such sums 2003-2007.