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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To remove barriers to health professions by providing resources to access foundational educational training, such as English language proficiency and adult basic education, and to require the provision of child care, in demonstration projects funded under the health profession opportunity grant program under section 2008 of the Social Security Act.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. CHU introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To remove barriers to health professions by providing resources to access foundational educational training, such as English language proficiency and adult basic education, and to require the provision of child care, in demonstration projects funded under the health profession opportunity grant program under section 2008 of the Social Security Act.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Essential Skills and
3 Child Care for Health Professions Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. PROVISION OF FOUNDATIONAL EDUCATIONAL**
5 **TRAINING AND CHILD CARE.**

6 Section 2008 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
7 1397g) is amended by redesignating subsections (c) and
8 (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively, and by insert-
9 ing after subsection (b) the following:

10 “(c) PROVISION OF FOUNDATIONAL EDUCATIONAL
11 TRAINING AND CHILD CARE.—

12 “(1) REQUIRED SUPPORT.—A demonstration
13 project for which a grant is made under this section
14 shall include the following:

15 “(A) An assessment for adult basic skill
16 competency, and provision of adult basic skills
17 education if necessary for lower-skilled eligible
18 individuals to enroll in the project and go on to
19 enter and complete post-secondary training,
20 through means including the following:

21 “(i) Establishing a network of part-
22 ners that offer pre-training activities for
23 project participants who need to improve
24 basic academic skills or English language
25 proficiency before entering a health occu-
26 pational training career pathway program.

1 “(ii) Offering resources to enable
2 project participants to continue advancing
3 adult basic skill proficiency while enrolled
4 in a career pathway program.

5 “(iii) Embedding adult basic skill
6 maintenance as part of ongoing post-grad-
7 uation career coaching and mentoring.

8 “(B) A guarantee that child care is an
9 available and affordable support service for
10 project participants through means such as the
11 following:

12 “(i) Referral to, and assistance with,
13 enrollment in a subsidized child care pro-
14 gram.

15 “(ii) Direct payment to a child care
16 provider if a slot in a subsidized child care
17 program is not available or reasonably ac-
18 cessible.

19 “(iii) Payment of co-payments or as-
20 sociated fees for child care.

21 “(2) ALLOWED SUPPORT.—The goods and serv-
22 ices provided under a demonstration project for
23 which a grant is made under this section may in-
24 clude assistance with accessing and completing high
25 school equivalency or adult basic education courses

1 as necessary to achieve success in the project and
2 make progress toward career goals.”.

3 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

4 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
5 on October 1, 2025.