

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1659

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the participation of pediatric subspecialists in the National Health Service Corps program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 23 (legislative day, MAY 22), 2019

Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mr. REED) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the participation of pediatric subspecialists in the National Health Service Corps program, 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 “Ensuring Children’s
5 Access to Specialty Care Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. PARTICIPATION OF PEDIATRIC SUBSPECIALTIES IN**
2 **NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS.**

3 (a) PRIMARY HEALTH SERVICES DEFINITION.—Sec-
4 tion 331(a)(3)(D) of the Public Health Service Act (42
5 U.S.C. 254d(a)(3)(D)) is amended by inserting “(and pe-
6 diatric subspecialties and special qualifications in pedi-
7 atries)” after “pediatrics”.

8 (b) BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH PROFES-
9 SIONALS DEFINITION.—Section 331(a)(3)(E)(i) of the
10 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254d(a)(3)(E)(i))
11 is amended by inserting “(including pediatric subspecial-
12 ists thereof)” after “psychiatrists”.

13 (c) HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREAS.—
14 Section 332(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42
15 U.S.C. 254e(a)) is amended—

16 (1) in paragraph (1)(B), by inserting “(includ-
17 ing such a population group of children and adoles-
18 cents)” after “shortage”; and

19 (2) in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting “pediatric
20 subspecialty medical residency or fellowship training
21 site,” after “health department,”.

22 (d) LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM.—Subparagraph
23 (B) of section 338B(b)(1) of the Public Health Service
24 Act (42 U.S.C. 254l–1(b)(1)) is amended by inserting

- 1 “(including a pediatric subspecialty residency or fellowship
- 2 training program)” before the semicolon.

