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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Public Health Service Act to expand behavioral health
workforce training programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana introduced the following bill; which was referred to
the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to expand behav-
ioral health workforce training programs, 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 “9–8–8 Crisis Response
5 Workforce Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPANDING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WORKFORCE**
2 **TRAINING PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS.—Section
4 332 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254e)
5 is amended by adding at the end the following:

6 “(1) The Secretary shall collect and publish in the
7 Federal Register data comparing the availability and need
8 of crisis response services in health professional shortage
9 areas and in areas within such health professional short-
10 age areas, including—

11 “(1) the number of crisis call centers, mobile
12 crisis response units, and crisis receiving and sta-
13 bilization facilities in such areas; and

14 “(2) the number of behavioral and mental
15 health professionals providing crisis management
16 services or working in crisis response settings, in-
17 cluding the settings described in paragraph (1).”.

18 (b) MINORITY FELLOWSHIP PILOT PROGRAM FOR
19 CRISIS MANAGEMENT SERVICES.—Section 597 of the
20 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 2901l) is amended—

21 (1) by amending subsection (b) to read as fol-
22 lows:

23 “(b) TRAINING COVERED.—The fellowships awarded
24 under subsection (a) shall be for postbaccalaureate train-
25 ing (including for master’s and doctoral degrees) for men-

1 tal and substance use disorder treatment professionals, in-
2 cluding—

3 “(1) in the fields of psychiatry, addiction medi-
4 cine, nursing, social work, psychology, marriage and
5 family therapy, mental health counseling, and sub-
6 stance use disorder and addiction counseling; and

7 “(2) in crisis management services (such as at
8 a crisis call center, as part of a mobile crisis team,
9 or at a crisis receiving and stabilization facility).”;
10 and

11 (2) by amending subsection (c) to read as fol-
12 lows:

13 “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
14 are authorized to be appropriated—

15 “(1) for carrying out this section (except with
16 respect to subsection (b)(2)), \$25,000,000 for each
17 of fiscal years 2023 through 2027; and

18 “(2) for awarding fellowships described in sub-
19 section (b)(2), \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years
20 2027 through 2031.”.

21 (c) BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WORKFORCE EDUCATION
22 AND TRAINING.—Section 756 of the Public Health Service
23 Act (42 U.S.C. 294e–1) is amended—

24 (1) in subsection (a)—

25 (A) in paragraph (1)—

1 (i) by inserting “or remote programs
2 that offer practicum hours” after “other
3 field placement programs”;

4 (ii) by inserting “(which may include
5 training or a field practicum employing
6 call, text, or chat responders for mental
7 health crisis lines)” after “social work”;
8 and

9 (iii) by inserting “crisis management
10 (such as at a crisis call center, as part of
11 a mobile crisis team, or through crisis re-
12 ceiving and stabilization program),” after
13 “occupational therapy (which may include
14 master’s and doctoral level programs),”;

15 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “and
16 providing crisis management services (such as
17 at a crisis call center, as part of a mobile crisis
18 team, or through crisis receiving and stabiliza-
19 tion program)” after “treatment services,”;

20 (C) in paragraph (3), by inserting “and
21 providing crisis management services (such as
22 at a crisis call center, as part of a mobile crisis
23 team, or through crisis receiving and stabiliza-
24 tion program)” after “behavioral health serv-
25 ices”; and

1 (D) in paragraph (4), by inserting “, in-
2 cluding for the provision of crisis management
3 services (such as at a crisis call center, as part
4 of a mobile crisis team, or through crisis receiv-
5 ing and stabilization program),” after “para-
6 professional field”; and

7 (2) by amending subsection (f) to read as fol-
8 lows:

9 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For each of fiscal years
11 2026 through 2030, there are authorized to be ap-
12 propriated to carry out this section \$50,000,000, to
13 be allocated as follows:

14 “(A) For grants described in subsection
15 (a)(1), \$15,000,000.

16 “(B) For grants described in subsection
17 (a)(2), \$15,000,000.

18 “(C) For grants described in subsection
19 (a)(3), \$10,000,000.

20 “(D) For grants described in subsection
21 (a)(4), \$10,000,000.

22 “(2) ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION FOR CRISIS
23 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.—For each of fiscal
24 years 2027 through 2031, in addition to the
25 amounts under paragraph (1), there are authorized

1 to be appropriated to carry out this section with re-
2 spect to crisis workforce development \$10,000,000.”.