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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.**

To remove barriers to health professions by providing resources to access foundational educational training, such as English as a foreign language 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.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. JUDY CHU of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To remove barriers to health professions by providing resources to access foundational educational training, such as English as a foreign language 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 the use of innovative ap-  
17 proaches to adult basic skills education so that  
18 lower-skilled eligible individuals can enroll in  
19 the project and go on to enter and complete  
20 post-secondary training, through means includ-  
21 ing the following:

22 “(i) Establishing a network of part-  
23 ners that offer pre-training activities for  
24 project participants who need to improve  
25 basic academic skills or English language

1 proficiency before entering a health occu-  
2 pational training career pathway program.

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

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

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

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

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

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

23 “(2) ALLOWED SUPPORT.—The goods and serv-  
24 ices provided under a demonstration project for  
25 which a grant is made under this section may in-

1       clude assistance with accessing and completing high  
2       school equivalency or adult basic education courses  
3       as necessary to achieve success in the project and  
4       make progress toward career goals.”.

5       **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

6       The amendments made by this Act shall take effect  
7       on October 1, 2019.