

**AMENDMENT TO AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT
OF 2021
OFFERED BY MR. BURGESS OF TEXAS**

Strike section 3021 (relating to funding for public health workforce) and insert the following:

1 SEC. 3021. LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM.

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Health and
3 Human Services shall establish a program to be known
4 as the Public Health Workforce Loan Repayment Pro-
5 gram (referred to in this section as the “Program”) to
6 assure an adequate supply of and encourage recruitment
7 of public health professionals to eliminate critical public
8 health workforce shortages in local, State, and Tribal pub-
9 lic health agencies.

10 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to participate in the
11 Program, an individual shall—

12 (1)(A) be accepted for enrollment, or be en-
13 rolled, as a student in an accredited academic edu-
14 cational institution in a State or territory in the
15 final year of a course of study or program leading
16 to a public health or health professions degree or
17 certificate and have accepted employment with a
18 local, State, or Tribal public health agency, or a re-

1 lated training fellowship, as recognized by the Sec-
2 retary, to commence upon graduation; or

3 (B)(i) have graduated, during the preceding 10-
4 year period, from an accredited educational institu-
5 tion in a State or territory and received a public
6 health or health professions degree or certificate;
7 and

8 (ii) be employed by, or have accepted employ-
9 ment with, a local, State, or Tribal public health
10 agency or a related training fellowship, as recognized
11 by the Secretary;

12 (2) be a United States citizen;

13 (3)(A) submit an application to the Secretary to
14 participate in the Program; and

15 (B) execute a written contract as required in
16 subsection (c); and

17 (4) not have received, for the same service, a
18 reduction of loan obligations under section 428J,
19 428K, 428L, 455(m), or 460 of the Higher Edu-
20 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1078–10, 1078–11,
21 1078–12, 1087e(m), and 1087j).

22 (c) CONTRACT.—The written contract referred to in
23 subsection (c)(3)(B) between the Secretary and an indi-
24 vidual shall contain—

1 (1) an agreement on the part of the Secretary
2 that the Secretary will repay, on behalf of the indi-
3 vidual, loans incurred by the individual in the pur-
4 suit of the relevant degree or certificate in accord-
5 ance with the terms of the contract;

6 (2) an agreement on the part of the individual
7 that the individual will serve in the full-time employ-
8 ment of a local, State, or Tribal public health agency
9 or a related fellowship program in a position related
10 to the course of study or program for which the con-
11 tract was awarded for a period of time equal to the
12 greater of—

13 (A) 3 years; or

14 (B) such longer period of time as deter-
15 mined appropriate by the Secretary and the in-
16 dividual;

17 (3) an agreement, as appropriate, on the part
18 of the individual to relocate to a priority service area
19 (as determined by the Secretary) in exchange for an
20 additional loan repayment incentive amount to be
21 determined by the Secretary;

22 (4) a provision that any financial obligation of
23 the United States arising out of a contract entered
24 into under this section and any obligation of the in-
25 dividual that is conditioned thereon, is contingent on

1 funds being appropriated for loan repayments under
2 this subsection;

3 (5) a statement of the damages to which the
4 United States is entitled, under this subsection for
5 the individual's breach of the contract; and

6 (6) such other statements of the rights and li-
7 abilities of the Secretary and of the individual as the
8 Secretary determines appropriate, not inconsistent
9 with this subsection.

10 (d) PAYMENTS.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—A loan repayment provided
12 for an individual under a written contract referred
13 to in subsection (c)(3)(B) shall consist of payment,
14 in accordance with subparagraph (B), on behalf of
15 the individual of the principal, interest, and related
16 expenses on government and commercial loans re-
17 ceived by the individual regarding the undergraduate
18 or graduate education of the individual (or both),
19 which loans were made for tuition expenses incurred
20 by the individual.

21 (2) PAYMENTS FOR YEARS SERVED.—For each
22 year of service that an individual contracts to serve
23 pursuant to subsection (c)(2), the Secretary may pay
24 not more than \$35,000 on behalf of the individual
25 for loans described in subparagraph (A). With re-

1 spect to participants under the Program whose total
2 eligible loans are less than \$105,000, the Secretary
3 shall pay an amount that does not exceed $\frac{1}{3}$ of the
4 eligible loan balance for each year of such service of
5 such individual.

6 (3) TAX LIABILITY.—For the purpose of pro-
7 viding reimbursements for tax liability resulting
8 from payments under paragraph (1) on behalf of an
9 individual, the Secretary shall, in addition to such
10 payments, make payments to the individual in an
11 amount not to exceed 39 percent of the total amount
12 of loan repayments made for the taxable year in-
13 volved.

14 (4) POSTPONING OBLIGATED SERVICE.—With
15 respect to an individual receiving a degree or certifi-
16 cate from a health professions or other related
17 school, the date of the initiation of the period of ob-
18 ligated service may be postponed as approved by the
19 Secretary.

20 (5) BREACH OF CONTRACT.—An individual who
21 fails to comply with the contract entered into under
22 subsection (c) shall be subject to the same financial
23 penalties as provided for under section 338E of the
24 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254o) for

1 breaches of loan repayment contracts under section
2 338B of such Act (42 U.S.C. section 2541–1).

3 (6) APPLICATION OF PROVISIONS.—Amounts
4 appropriated pursuant to the amendments made by
5 this subsection for fiscal shall be subject to the re-
6 quirements contained in Public Law 116–94 for
7 funds for programs authorized under 340K of the
8 Public Health Service Act.

