

## S 1148

### Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act of 2015

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Apr 30, 2015

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Apr 30, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1148>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** FL • **Chamber:** Senate

## Cosponsors (16 total)

| Cosponsor                          | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Reid, Harry [D-NV]            | D · NV        |      | Apr 30, 2015 |
| Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]    | D · NY        |      | Apr 30, 2015 |
| Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]  | D · PA        |      | May 6, 2015  |
| Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]      | D · VT        |      | May 6, 2015  |
| Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY] | D · NY        |      | May 7, 2015  |
| Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]       | D · NJ        |      | May 7, 2015  |
| Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]            | D · MT        |      | May 14, 2015 |
| Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]       | D · MI        |      | May 22, 2015 |
| Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]          | D · OR        |      | Jun 17, 2015 |
| Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]       | D · HI        |      | Jul 8, 2015  |
| Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]    | D · CT        |      | Jul 16, 2015 |
| Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]      | D · MA        |      | Aug 3, 2015  |
| Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]        | D · NJ        |      | May 11, 2016 |
| Sen. McCaskill, Claire [D-MO]      | D · MO        |      | Sep 20, 2016 |
| Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]      | D · MA        |      | Nov 16, 2016 |
| Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]         | D · MN        |      | Dec 7, 2016  |

## Committee Activity

| Committee         | Chamber | Activity    | Date         |
|-------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Finance Committee | Senate  | Referred To | Apr 30, 2015 |

## Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Health

## Related Bills

| Bill        | Relationship | Last Action   |
|-------------|--------------|---|
| 114 HR 2124 | Related bill | May 18, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. |

## Summary (as of Apr 30, 2015)

### Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act of 2015

Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act with respect to distribution of additional resident positions as they affect calculation of payments for direct graduate medical education costs.

Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services, for each of FY2017-FY2021 (and each succeeding fiscal year if additional residency positions are available to distribute), to increase the otherwise applicable resident limit for each qualifying hospital.

Requires the aggregate number of increases in the otherwise applicable resident limit to be 3,000 in each of FY2017-FY2021, of which 1,500 in each such fiscal year shall be used for full-time equivalent residents training in a shortage specialty residency program.

Specifies the process for distributing positions.

Declares that, for discharges occurring on or after July 1, 2017, the indirect teaching adjustment factor, with respect to additional payments for subsection (d) hospitals with indirect costs of medical education, insofar as those additional payments are attributable to resident positions distributed to a hospital according to such process, shall be computed in a specified manner with respect to those resident positions.

(Generally, a subsection [d] hospital is an acute care hospital, particularly one that receives payments under Medicare's inpatient prospective payment system when providing covered inpatient services to eligible beneficiaries.)

Directs the National Health Care Workforce Commission established under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to study the physician workforce.

Directs the Comptroller General to study strategies for increasing the diversity of the health profession workforce.

## Actions Timeline

- **Apr 30, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 30, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.