

## S 789

Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr., Social Work Reinvestment Act

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Social Welfare

**Introduced:** Mar 18, 2015

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Mar 18, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/789>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]

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

### Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 18, 2015

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Social Welfare

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 1378	Related bill	Apr 29, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.

## **Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young Jr., Social Work Reinvestment Act**

This bill directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish the Social Work Reinvestment Commission to provide independent counsel to Congress and the Secretary on policy issues related to recruitment, retention, research, and reinvestment in the profession of social work.

The Commission shall study issues facing the social work profession, including: (1) fair market compensation, high educational debt, social work workforce trends, translating social work research to practice, and social work safety; and (2) state-level social work licensure policies and reciprocity agreements for providing services across state lines.

The Secretary is directed to award grants to four eligible entities, including at least two agencies of state or local governments, to assist them in carrying out a workplace improvement program to address concerns for the social work profession.

The Secretary shall also award grants to: (1) 25 social workers who hold a doctoral degree in social work for postdoctoral research in social work, (2) 20 eligible institutions of higher education to support the recruitment and education of social work students in advanced degree programs and the professional development of social work faculty, and (3) six eligible covered entities to test and replicate effective social work interventions.

The Secretary shall contract with a national social work entity that serves as a coordinating center to: (1) engage in activities to build on the efforts of the National Association of Social Workers National Center for Workforce Studies; (2) collect, coordinate, monitor, and distribute data and information on best practices and findings regarding grant-funded activities; (3) report to the Secretary recommendations on the need to recruit new social workers, retain current social worker, conduct social worker research, and reinvest in the profession of social work; and (4) select research topics to further the goals of this Act.

The Secretary must develop and issue public service announcements that advertise and promote the social work profession.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 18, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 18, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.