

# STATE OF NEW YORK

7509

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

November 5, 2021

Introduced by Sen. OBERACKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to establishing the healthcare workforce innovation fund; and making an appropriation therefor

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new section  
2 3609-a to read as follows:

3 § 3609-a. Healthcare workforce innovation fund. The department shall  
4 establish the healthcare workforce innovation fund for the purpose of  
5 expanding the direct care provider and home health aide workforce pipe-  
6 lines. The department shall, on an annual basis, identify areas of the  
7 state experiencing a shortage of workers in the direct care service  
8 provider and home health aide sectors. The department shall work in  
9 collaboration with the department of mental hygiene and the department  
10 of education to improve the workforce pipelines in those areas. The  
11 department may provide grants out of funds available to providers and  
12 educational institutions, including, but not limited to, BOCES programs,  
13 employment opportunity centers, and other institutions for the purpose  
14 of improving such pipelines.

15 § 2. The sum of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) is hereby appropri-  
16 ated to the department of health out of any moneys in the state treasury  
17 in the general fund to the credit of the local assistance account, not  
18 otherwise appropriated, and made immediately available, for the purpose  
19 of the healthcare workforce innovation fund. Such moneys shall be paya-  
20 ble on the audit and warrant of the comptroller on vouchers certified or  
21 approved by the commissioner of the department of education in the  
22 manner prescribed by law.

23 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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