

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

H.R. 5447 Introduced by Congressman Edolphus Towns (D-NY) on February 14, 2008
S. 2858 Introduced by Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) on April 15, 2008

Social Work Reinvestment Commission: Addressing the Future of the Profession

A **Social Work Reinvestment Commission** is established to provide a comprehensive analysis of current trends within the academic and professional social work communities. Specifically, the Commission will develop long-term recommendations and strategies to maximize the ability of America's social workers to serve their clients with expertise and care. The recommendations will be presented to Congress and the Executive Branch.

Areas of Focus: Fair market compensation, high social work educational debt, social work workforce trends, knowledge development, social work safety, and state level social work licensure (as it implicates social work service across state lines) and the impact these issues have on the areas of aging, child welfare, military and veterans affairs, mental and behavioral health and disability, criminal justice, and health.

Reinvestment Demonstration Programs: Addressing The Current State of the Profession of Social Work

Demonstration Programs will prioritize activities in the areas of workplace improvements, research, education and training, and community based programs of excellence. These competitive demonstration grants will support efforts underway within both the private and public sectors, in the post doctoral research community, at our nation's institutions of higher learning, and within community-based organizations already administering services to underserved client populations. This investment will be returned many times over both in support of ongoing efforts to establish effective social service solutions and in direct service to affected client communities.

National Coordinating Center – One component of the demonstration programs will be a coordinating center which will work with universities, research entities, and social work practice settings to identify key research areas to be pursued, select fellows, and organize appropriate mentorship and professional development efforts.

Types of Programs Authorized by the Act:

Workplace Improvements – Grants will be awarded to address high caseloads, fair market compensation, social work safety, supervision, and working conditions.

Research – Grants will be awarded to social workers for post doctoral research activity to further the knowledge base of effective social work interventions and to promote usable strategies to translate research into practice across diverse community settings and service systems.

Education and Training – Grants are made available to institutions of higher education to support recruitment and education of social work students from high need and high demand areas at the Baccalaureate, Masters and Doctoral levels as well as the development of faculty. A multi-media outreach campaign is also created regarding social work career opportunities.

Community Based Programs of Excellence – Grants are made available to not for profit or public community based programs of excellence to further test and replicate effective social work interventions from the areas of aging, child welfare, military and veteran's issues, mental & behavioral health and disability, criminal justice, and health.

Social Work Awareness Month

The *Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act* will urge the President to designate March as Social Work Awareness Month to raise awareness about the importance of the profession and encourage interest groups, stakeholders, and individuals to take an active role in the recruitment, retention, research, and reinvestment in the profession of social work.

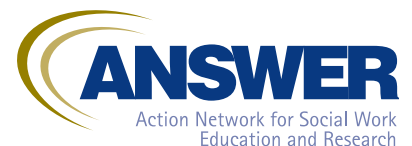
	Social Work Reinvestment Commission	Workplace Improvements - 4 Grants	Research - 25 Grants	Education & Training - 20 Grants	Community Based Programs of Excellence - 6 Grants	Coordinating Center
1 yr	\$500,000	\$250,000- \$1 million each	\$5 million total (over a 4 year period or approx. \$1,250,000 per year)	\$75,000- \$100,000 each	\$250,000- \$500,000 each	\$1 million
2 yr		\$250,000- \$1 million each		\$75,000- \$100,000 each	\$250,000- \$500,000 each	\$1 million
3 yr		\$250,000- \$1 million each		\$75,000- \$100,000 each	\$250,000- \$500,000 each	\$1 million
4 yr		\$250,000- \$1 million each		\$75,000- \$100,000 each		\$1 million
5 yr						\$1 million

Year 1 Total = \$6,750,000 to \$11,750,000
 Year 2 Total = \$6,250,000 to \$ 11,250,000
 Year 3 Total = \$6,250,000 to \$11,250,000
 Year 4 Total = \$4,750,000 to \$8,250,000
 Year 5 Total = \$1,000,000
 Cumulative Total (5 years) = \$25,000,000 to \$43,500,000

For more information about the Social Work Reinvestment Initiative, please visit www.SocialWorkReinvestment.org

The **Social Work Reinvestment Initiative (SWRI)** seeks to secure federal and state investments in professional social work to enhance societal well-being. The **Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act** is one key element of the broader SWRI. Federal and state advocacy are both critical components to ensure the future of the profession. NASW chapters have created 56 state level SWRI plans and NASW is also advocating for federal legislation in the areas of

- Child Welfare Workforce Issues
- Loan Forgiveness
- Medicare Reimbursement
- Social Work Research
- Social Work Safety
- Social Work Training



750 First Street, NE, Suite 700
 Washington, DC 20002
www.socialworkers.org