

Effective for fiscal year 1969, the present authority for special improvement grants would be amended to authorize support of planning of special projects for which grants could be made under the amended law which would go into effect in fiscal year 1970.

The purposes of the special project grants would be—

- (1) To plan, develop or establish new programs or modifications of existing programs of education in the respective health professions.
- (2) To effect significant improvements in curricula of health professions schools.
- (3) To conduct research in the various fields related to education in the respective health professions.
- (4) To develop training for new levels or types of health professions personnel.
- (5) To assist any school which is in serious financial straits to meet the costs of operation or to meet accreditation requirements.
- (6) To plan *experimental teaching facilities* or experimental design thereof.
- (7) Or otherwise strengthen, improve, or expand programs to train the personnel in the respective health professions or help to increase the supply of adequately trained personnel in such professions.

These are designed to stimulate schools to undertake and carry out projects such as increasing enrollment, improving the quality of educational programs, modernizing and improving the overall approach to health professions education, carrying out educational research, and training new kinds of intermediate health personnel to extend the resources and skills of highly trained professionals.

Further stimulus is given to the development of meaningful projects by the inclusion in the bill of authority, effective in fiscal year 1969, for special improvement grants for planning projects under the new special project authority which becomes effective in fiscal year 1970.

*New section 773(e).*—In determining the priority of projects under the amended authority, the Secretary would be required to give consideration to the following:

- (a) The extent to which the project will *increase enrollment*.
- (b) The relative need of the applicant for financial assistance to *maintain or provide accreditation* or to *avoid curtailing enrollment or reduction in quality of training*.
- (c) The extent to which the project would result in *curriculum improvement*, improved methods of training or help to *reduce the period of required training* without adversely affecting the quality thereof.

Projects of the magnitude and of the nature envisioned for these grants require careful and time-consuming study. The availability of funds to help meet the costs of preparatory analyses of the needs of the schools and their correction should result in major improvements of the schools.

*Section 111(b)(3).*—This amendment makes a conforming change in the title of the Advisory Council.

*Section 111(b)(4).*—This amendment excludes nonrecurring expenditures from the average non-Federal expenditure of the applicant