

ship program of up to 20 percent (or higher on approval of Secretary) of Federal funds paid to a school for its student loan program. This transfer authority will provide a most desirable flexibility to the school in tailoring its financial assistance programs to meet the needs of its individual students and will improve the effectiveness of the utilization of both the scholarship and loan funds.

Section 222(i).—Provides effective dates for amendments made by the preceding provisions of section 222.

Section 223.—This provides two new sections, section 860 and section 861. Section 860 replaces the existing educational opportunity grants with a scholarship program patterned generally after the scholarship provisions for the health professions.

Section 860(a).—This would authorize the Secretary to make grants to public or nonprofit schools of nursing for scholarships.

Section 860(b).—This would authorize scholarship aid for students in all three types of nursing schools: diploma, associate degree, and collegiate. This program would begin in fiscal year 1970 and would go through fiscal year 1973. It would further provide that appropriated funds be allocated among the participating schools on the basis of \$2,000 times one-tenth the number of full-time students.

Many nursing students come from low-income families who cannot help finance their educations; they will enter a profession where salaries are very low, particularly compared with the high remuneration of physicians and dentists. Consequently, proportionately more nursing students will require scholarship support.

The increasing costs of education to students are discouraging talented and interested young people from pursuing nursing careers. Availability of scholarship support would relieve financial pressure on students in school and give greater quality of opportunity to those who could not otherwise pursue a nursing career.

One-fifth of all nursing students are from families which have less than \$5,000 annual income. An additional fifth come from families in the \$5,000 to \$7,500 income bracket. All of the students in the first category and a substantial number in the second would require financial assistance for their nursing education.

Section 860(c)(1).—To be eligible for a scholarship, a student must be enrolled as a full-time student in good standing and must be of exceptional financial need and must need the financial assistance to pursue the course of study.

Section 860(c)(2).—This would provide that students could not receive more than \$1,500 per academic year.

The present scarcity of financial aid, particularly nursing scholarships, forces students from low-income families to select on the basis of its cost irrespective of the students' ability or career goals. The increasing costs of education to students will discourage talented and interested youth from pursuing nursing careers unless the amount of a scholarship approximates the cost of the nursing education program. Costs of nursing education vary widely among and within different types of programs—diploma, associate degree and baccalaureate. They can range from minimal in State-supported schools to over \$2,000 per year in private institutions. In many nursing programs, tuition alone is over \$1,000 per year. A maximum scholarship of \$1,500 will permit students more realistic planning of their educational programs.