

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 2677

By: Sears and Kiesel of the
House

3 and

4 Crain of the Senate

5
6
7 (public health and safety - eligibility requirements -
8 codification -

9 effective date)

10

11

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

13 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
14 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-2720 of Title 63, unless there
15 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

16 Sections 1 through 3 of this act shall be known and may be cited
17 as the "Oklahoma Medical Loan Repayment Program".

18 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
19 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-2721 of Title 63, unless there
20 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

21 A. 1. The Physician Manpower Training Commission shall
22 administer the Oklahoma Medical Loan Repayment Program.

23 2. For the purposes of this section, "primary care physicians"
24 shall mean physicians practicing in family medicine, geriatrics,

1 general internal medicine, general pediatrics,
2 obstetrics/gynecology, or emergency medicine. The Program,
3 depending upon available funding, shall provide educational loan
4 repayment assistance for up to six Oklahoma licensed primary care
5 physicians per year, who agree to establish a practice in a
6 community approved by the Commission.

7 3. Each award shall be for a contracted period and shall be
8 distributed to the participant by drafts made payable to the
9 participant on an annual basis with disbursements not to exceed
10 Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) per year for a five-year
11 period. Prior to any disbursement, the Commission shall certify and
12 properly review reports submitted by the participating physician
13 detailing performance of activities in accordance with the Oklahoma
14 Medical Loan Repayment Program.

15 4. At the conclusion of an initial two-year period, the
16 Commission shall review the performance in the Program of the
17 participating physician and determine whether an award may be
18 granted for an additional three (3) years pursuant to rules
19 promulgated by the Commission.

20 B. The physicians entering the Program each year shall agree to
21 provide medical care and services in areas designated by the
22 Commission to provide medical care and services to Medicaid
23 recipients as authorized by the Oklahoma Health Care Authority.
24

1 C. A physician shall be eligible to participate in the loan
2 repayment program if the physician:

3 1. Is licensed to practice medicine in Oklahoma; and

4 2. Is a new medical school graduate. Preference will be given
5 to graduates of the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic
6 Medicine and the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine; or

7 3. Is a current practicing physician and has met criteria
8 established by the Commission.

9 D. The physician shall agree to practice in the designated need
10 areas identified by the Commission for no fewer than two (2)
11 consecutive years as a condition of the loan repayment. If the
12 physician does not fulfill the service obligation, the Commission
13 may collect from the participant the entire amount of loan payments
14 made under the Program plus interest.

15 E. The Commission shall present a report on the operation of
16 the Program to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of
17 Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate within
18 one (1) month of the beginning of each regular session of the
19 Legislature, including but not limited to the progress made in
20 accomplishing the goal of the Program.

21 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
22 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-2722 of Title 63, unless there
23 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

24

1 The amount of the award of educational loan repayment assistance
2 shall not exceed any maximum or minimum amount as promulgated by
3 rules of the Physician Manpower Training Commission pursuant to the
4 Oklahoma Medical Loan Repayment Program. The actual amount of the
5 award shall be based upon a determination of:

- 6 1. Actual funds available to the Oklahoma Medical Loan
7 Repayment Program for expenditure; and
- 8 2. The existing student loan indebtedness of the participating
9 physician.

10 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2008.

11 Passed the House of Representatives the 6th day of March, 2008.

12

13

14 _____
15 Presiding Officer of the House of
Representatives

15

16 Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 2008.

17

18

19 _____
Presiding Officer of the Senate

20

21

22

23

24