

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 2017

By: Cox, Pittman, Ritze,
Cannaday and Sherrer of the
House

3
4 and

5 Crain of the Senate
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8 An Act relating to public health and safety; amending
9 Sections 2 and 3, Chapter 292, O.S.L. 2010 (63 O.S.
10 Supp. 2010, Sections 1-2721 and 1-2722), which relate
11 to the Oklahoma Medical Loan Repayment Program;
12 removing the maximum number of physicians eligible to
13 participate in Program; modifying when awards are
14 made payable; modifying maximum amount of
15 disbursement; providing that maximum amount shall be
16 established by the Physician Manpower Training
17 Commission; modifying eligibility requirements for
18 physicians participating in Program; permitting
19 Physician Manpower Training Commission to utilize
20 excess amounts to fund certain residency programs;
21 providing for codification; and providing an
22 effective date.

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

24 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 2, Chapter 292, O.S.L.
2010 (63 O.S. Supp. 2010, Section 1-2721), is amended to read as
follows:

Section 1-2721. A. 1. The Physician Manpower Training
Commission shall administer the Oklahoma Medical Loan Repayment
Program.

1 2. For the purposes of this section, "primary care physicians"
2 shall mean physicians practicing in family medicine, geriatrics,
3 general internal medicine, general pediatrics,
4 obstetrics/gynecology, or emergency medicine.

5 3. The Program, depending upon and limited to available
6 funding, shall provide educational loan repayment assistance ~~for up~~
7 to ~~six~~ Oklahoma licensed primary care physicians ~~per year~~ who agree
8 to establish a practice in a community located in Oklahoma approved
9 by the Commission.

10 4. Each award shall be for a contracted period and shall be
11 distributed to the participant by drafts made payable to the
12 participant ~~on an annual basis~~ at the end of each contract year with
13 disbursements not to exceed ~~Twenty-five Thousand Dollars~~
14 ~~(\$25,000.00) per year for a five year period~~ an amount to be
15 established annually by the Commission. Prior to any disbursement,
16 the Commission shall certify and properly review reports submitted
17 by the participating physician detailing performance of activities
18 in accordance with the ~~Oklahoma Medical Loan Repayment~~ Program.

19 5. At the conclusion of an initial two-year period, the
20 Commission shall review the performance in the Program of the
21 participating physician and determine whether an award may be
22 granted for ~~an~~ additional ~~three (3)~~ years pursuant to rules
23 promulgated by the Commission.

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1 B. The physicians entering the Program each year shall agree to
2 provide medical care and services in areas designated by the
3 Commission to provide medical care and services to Medicaid
4 recipients as authorized by the Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

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

- 7 1. Is licensed to practice medicine in Oklahoma; ~~and~~
- 8 2. Is a new ~~medical-school~~ primary care residency graduate.

9 Preference will be given to graduates of the primary care residency
10 programs affiliated with the Oklahoma State University College of
11 Osteopathic Medicine ~~and,~~ the University of Oklahoma College of
12 Medicine and the teaching hospitals affiliated with both schools of
13 medicine; or

14 3. Is a current practicing physician and has met criteria
15 established by the Commission.

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

22 E. The Commission shall present a report on the operation of
23 the Program to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of
24 Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate within

1 one (1) month of the beginning of each regular session of the
2 Legislature, including but not limited to the progress made in
3 accomplishing the goal of the Program.

4 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 3, Chapter 292, O.S.L.
5 2010 (63 O.S. Supp. 2010, Section 1-2722), is amended to read as
6 follows:

7 Section 1-2722. The amount of the award of educational loan
8 repayment assistance shall not exceed any maximum or minimum amount
9 as promulgated by rules of the Physician Manpower Training
10 Commission pursuant to the Oklahoma Medical Loan Repayment Program.
11 The actual amount of the award shall be based upon a determination
12 of:

- 13 1. Actual funds available to the ~~Oklahoma Medical Loan~~
14 ~~Repayment~~ Program for expenditure; and
- 15 2. The existing student loan indebtedness of the participating
16 physician.

17 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
18 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-2723 of Title 63, unless there
19 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20 A. The Physician Manpower Training Commission shall have the
21 option of utilizing available funding in excess of the amount
22 necessary to fund the Oklahoma Medical Loan Repayment Program
23 described in Section 1-2721 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes to
24 fund new or expanded primary care residency programs in rural and

1 underserved areas of the state. Such new or expanded primary care
2 residency program funding shall include but not be limited to:

3 1. Payments to hospitals desiring to establish new primary care
4 residency programs. Such payments shall be made to cover the costs
5 of salaries, benefits and educational costs of residents in training
6 at the facility;

7 2. Payments to hospitals with existing primary residency
8 programs desiring to expand the number of residents participating in
9 those programs. Such payments shall be made to cover the costs of
10 salaries, benefits and educational costs of residents in training at
11 the facility; or

12 3. Payments of stipends to residents of new or existing primary
13 care residency programs in exchange for a commitment to serve in a
14 rural or underserved area of the state as designated by the
15 Commission.

16 B. Provisions of this section shall be subject to the
17 promulgated rules of the Commission.

18 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2011.

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1 Passed the House of Representatives the 14th day of March, 2011.

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4 Presiding Officer of the House of
Representatives

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6 Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 2011.

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9 Presiding Officer of the Senate