

Introduced by

Senators Traynor, Andrist, Lindaas

Representatives Metcalf, Nicholas

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 43-17.2-01, subsection 5 of section 43-17.2-02,
2 and subsection 3 of section 43-17.2-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the
3 state-community matching physician loan repayment program and powers of the state health
4 council.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 43-17.2-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **43-17.2-01. State-community matching physician loan repayment program.**

- 9 1. The North Dakota state-community matching physician loan repayment program is
10 established as provided by this chapter.
- 11 2. The purpose of the program is to increase the number of physicians practicing
12 medicine in North Dakota communities with defined health professional medical
13 need.
- 14 3. Under the program, loan repayments may be made to a recipient for educational
15 expenses incurred while the recipient was attending an accredited four-year
16 allopathic or osteopathic medical school located in the United States, its
17 possessions, territories, or Canada and approved by the state board of medical
18 examiners or by an accrediting body approved by the board.
- 19 ~~4. Loan repayment funds consist of a fifty percent match from the state and a fifty~~
20 ~~percent match from the selected community.~~
- 21 ~~5.~~ Each recipient is limited to a ~~forty~~ forty-five thousand dollar maximum loan
22 repayment from the state to be paid over ~~four~~ three years. The loan repayment
23 from the selected community must be in an amount that equals or exceeds the
24 amount of loan repayment provided by the state.

- 1 6- 5. The state health council ~~shall~~ may select up to ~~five ten~~ recipients in ~~five ten~~
2 communities each year as participants in the program, subject to the availability of
3 funding for this purpose.

4 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 5 of section 43-17.2-02 of the North Dakota
5 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 6 5. Enter into a ~~four-year~~ three-year nonrenewable loan repayment program contract
7 with the applicant and the selected community to provide repayment of education
8 loans in exchange for the physician agreeing to practice medicine in the selected
9 community.

10 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 3 of section 43-17.2-03 of the North Dakota
11 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 12 3. A physician who receives loan repayment under this chapter:
- 13 a. Must be a graduate of an accredited four-year allopathic or osteopathic
14 medical school located in the United States, its possessions, territories, or
15 Canada and approved by the state board of medical examiners or by an
16 accrediting body approved by the board;
- 17 b. ~~Must be enrolled in or have graduated from an accredited graduate training~~
18 ~~program in medicine prior to or within one year after submitting an application~~
19 ~~to participate in the loan repayment program and~~ not have practiced full-time
20 medicine in this state ~~within three years~~ for more than one year before the
21 date of the application;
- 22 c. ~~Must be licensed~~ have a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine in
23 this state;
- 24 d. Shall submit an application to participate in the loan repayment program; and
- 25 e. Must have entered into an agreement with a selected community to provide
26 full-time medical services for a minimum of four years at the selected
27 community if the applicant receives a loan repayment program contract.