19.0260.01000

Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

Introduced by

FIRST DRAFT:
Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for the
Higher Education Committee
August 2018

- 1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15-10 of the North Dakota
- 2 Century Code, relating to a dentistry, optometry, and veterinary medicine student loan
- 3 repayment program.

## 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

- 5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:
- 7 <u>Dentists, optometrists, and veterinarians Student loan repayment.</u>
- 8 <u>1. The state board of higher education shall administer a dentistry, optometry, and</u>
- 9 <u>veterinary medicine student loan repayment program that encourages college</u>
- students to return to and remain in this state after graduation. The board shall adopt
- 11 <u>rules to implement the program.</u>
- 12 <u>2. To be eligible for student loan repayment under this section, an individual:</u>
- 13 <u>a. Must have a degree in dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine;</u>
- b. Must have worked in the field of dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine in
- 15 <u>this state for thirty-six months;</u>
- 16 <u>c. Must not have received discounted tuition as a result of professional student</u>
- 17 <u>exchange program payment to an out-of-state institution by this state:</u>
- 18 <u>d. Must have an existing student loan; and</u>
- 19 <u>e. Must have either:</u>
- 20 (1) Graduated from a high school in this state;
- 21 (2) Graduated from a high school in a bordering state, pursuant to
- 22 <u>chapter 15.1-29;</u>
- 23 (3) Graduated from a nonpublic high school in a bordering state while residing
- 24 <u>with a custodial parent in this state;</u>

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1		(4) Completed a program of home education supervised in accordance with
2		<u>chapter 15.1-23; or</u>
3		(5) Received a general educational development high school diploma from the
4		superintendent of public instruction.
5	<u>3.</u>	The state board of higher education shall distribute student loan grants directly to the
6		bank of North Dakota or other participating lenders to repay outstanding student loan
7		principal balances for eligible applicants. The maximum student loan grant amount for
8		which an applicant may qualify is one hundred thousand dollars, or a lesser amount
9		established by rule adopted by the state board of higher education.