

**Sixtieth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota  
In Regular Session Commencing Wednesday, January 3, 2007**

SENATE BILL NO. 2152  
(Senators Nething, J. Lee, Warner)  
(Representatives Pietsch, Price)

AN ACT to create and enact a new subsection to section 43-28.1-03 and a new section to chapter 43-28.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to selection and eligibility for loan repayment under the dentists' loan repayment program and for new practice grants; to provide for a legislative council study; and to provide an appropriation.

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

**SECTION 1.** A new subsection to section 43-28.1-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

For the purposes of a dentist selected for loan payment who practices within fifteen miles [24.14 kilometers] of the city limits of Bismarck, Fargo, or Grand Forks, to qualify to receive a yearly disbursement under this chapter during that year of obligated service, the dentist must have:

- a. Received dental medical payments of at least twenty thousand dollars in the form of medical assistance reimbursement; or
- b. Practiced at least two full workdays per week at a public health clinic or at a nonprofit dental clinic that uses a sliding fee schedule to bill the nonprofit dental clinic's patients.

**SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 43-28.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**New practices - Grants.**

1. A dentist who graduated from an accredited dental school within the previous five years and is licensed to practice in North Dakota may submit an application to the state health council for a grant for the purpose of establishing a dental practice in a city in the state which has a population that does not exceed seven thousand five hundred.
2. The state health council may award a maximum of two grants per year and shall establish the criteria for the grant program under subsection 1 which must include:
  - a. A maximum grant award of fifty thousand dollars per applicant;
  - b. A requirement that the community must provide a fifty percent match for a grant;
  - c. A requirement that a dentist who receives a grant under this section must use the funds for buildings, equipment, and operating expenses;
  - d. A provision that the grant must be distributed in equal amounts over a five-year period; and
  - e. A requirement that a dentist selected for a grant under this section must commit to practice in the community for a minimum of five years.

**SECTION 3. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STUDY - COMMUNITY HEALTH TRUST FUND.** The legislative council shall consider studying, during the 2007-08 interim, the historic and anticipated uses

of funds from the community health trust fund, including a cost-benefit evaluation of past expenditures from the fund, the feasibility and desirability of establishing a strategic plan for future use of the fund, and the sustainability of the fund. The legislative council shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-first legislative assembly.

**SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the community health trust fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$60,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the state department of health for the purpose of funding the new practice grant program, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2009.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

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Secretary of the Senate

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Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixtieth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2152.

Senate Vote:    Yeas    46        Nays    0        Absent    1

House Vote:    Yeas    80        Nays    7        Absent    7

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Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007,

at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

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Secretary of State