

Introduced by

Legislative Management

(Health Services Committee)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections 43-28.1-07 and 43-28.1-08 of the North
2 Dakota Century Code, relating to the dentist loan repayment program; to repeal section
3 43-28.1-06 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to breach of the dentist loan repayment
4 program; and to provide for application.

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

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 43-28.1-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **43-28.1-07. Release from ~~contract~~Contract obligation.**

9 1. The state health council shall ~~release a dentist from the dentist's loan repayment~~
10 ~~contract, without penalty, if:~~

- 11 a. ~~The dentist has completed the service requirements of the contract;~~
12 b. ~~The dentist is unable to complete the service requirement of the contract~~
13 ~~because of a permanent physical disability;~~
14 c. ~~The dentist demonstrates to the state health council extreme hardship or shows~~
15 ~~other good cause justifying the release; or~~
16 d. ~~The dentist dies.~~

17 2. ~~A decision by the state health council not to release a dentist from the dentist's loan~~
18 ~~repayment contract without penalty is reviewable by district court~~enter a contract with
19 a selected dentist. The contract must provide the state health council agrees to make
20 payments of loan repayment funds to the selected dentist, subject to the dentist
21 meeting the requirements and limitations established by the state health council under
22 this chapter.

23 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 43-28.1-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is
24 amended and reenacted as follows:

1 **43-28.1-08. Payment - Termination.**

2 1. The state health council may not provide any loan repayment funds to a dentist under
3 this chapter until the dentist has practiced at least six months on a full-time basis in the
4 city or surrounding areas, or both, the state health council has identified as having a
5 defined need for dental services. ~~Loan repayment funds for a year of obligated service~~
6 are payable by the state health council no later than the end of the fiscal year in which
7 the dentist completes the year of obligated service.

8 2. Except as otherwise provided, the state health council shall make payments under this
9 chapter at the conclusion of each of the five twelve-month periods of service during
10 which the dentist met the qualifying terms of the contract. The state health council may
11 make a prorated payment under this chapter if during the twelve-month period the
12 dentist failed to meet the qualifying terms of the contract.

13 3. Payments under this chapter terminate upon the earlier of completion of five years as
14 a participant in this loan repayment program or failure of the dentist to meet the
15 qualifying terms under the contract.

16 **SECTION 3. REPEAL.** Section 43-28.1-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is repealed.

17 **SECTION 4. APPLICATION.** In the case of a dental student loan repayment contract under
18 chapter 43-28.1 which was entered before the effective date of this Act, the state health council
19 and that dentist may amend the terms of the contract to comply with this Act.