

ENROLLED ACT NO. 41, SENATE

FIFTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2004 BUDGET SESSION

AN ACT relating to health care providers; amending loan repayment programs by specifying additional eligible providers; amending repayment agreement terms as specified; reducing the required level of local matching funds as specified; providing appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

**Section 1.** W.S. 9-2-118(a)(intro), (i) through (iv) and (d) and 9-2-119(a)(intro), (i), (ii) and (d) are amended to read:

**9-2-118. Physician and dentist loan repayment program.**

(a) The department is authorized to enter into agreements with ~~primary care~~ physicians ~~graduating and dentists who have graduated~~ from accredited residency programs to provide health care in this state. ~~For purposes of this section "primary care physicians" means general practitioners and physicians recognized as specialists in family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetric or gynecologic care.~~ The agreements shall:

(i) Provide for the physician or dentist to practice medicine in a community of the state from among a list of communities developed by the department. A physician or dentist shall agree to provide medical care for the period of the contract in underserved areas of the state and shall accept patients qualified under the Medical Assistance and Services Act and the child health insurance program who seek medical care which the physician or dentist is qualified to provide. The department of health, in consultation with the state board of medicine and the

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board of dental examiners, shall determine which areas of the state are underserved and which provider services are most needed in each underserved area;

(ii) Provide that the physician or dentist shall be repaid up to one hundred percent (100%) of the amount of outstanding educational loans the physician or dentist has acquired after completing undergraduate programs and as a direct result of medical or dental school training, not to exceed thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) per year, including the matching funds specified in subsection (d) of this section, in exchange for practicing his profession under the terms of this section;

(iii) Require the physician or dentist to agree ~~to~~ practice for a minimum of three (3) years under the agreement;

(iv) Prohibit the physician or dentist from discriminating against any patient whose cost of care is reimbursed under Title XVIII of the federal Social Security Act or the Wyoming Medical Assistance and Services Act;

(d) No state money shall be expended for repayment of any loan under this section unless twenty-five percent (25%) of the money is ~~equally~~ matched with other funds in any combination from any county, city, school district, ~~or hospital~~ health care facility or health care association.

**9-2-119. Allied health care provider loan repayment program.**

(a) The department is authorized to enter into agreements with health care providers licensed or ~~legally authorized~~ certified to provide health care services in this state including, but not limited to, hospital,

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medical, surgical, dental, vision, nursing, radiology,  
mental health and pharmaceutical services. The agreements shall:

(i) Require the health care provider to provide health care services in a community of the state from among a list of communities developed by the department. A health care provider shall agree to provide medical care for the period of the contract in underserved areas of the state and shall accept patients qualified under the Medical Assistance and Services Act and the child health insurance program who seek medical care which the health care provider is qualified to provide. The department of health, in consultation with the appropriate health care provider licensing boards, shall determine which areas of the state are underserved and which provider services are most needed in each underserved area;

(ii) Provide that the health care provider shall be repaid up to one hundred percent (100%) of the amount of outstanding educational loans the provider has acquired as a result of educational training directly related to providing medical services, not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) per year, including the matching funds specified in subsection (d) of this section, in exchange for practicing under the terms of this section;

(d) No state money shall be expended for repayment of any loan under this section unless twenty-five percent (25%) of the money is equally matched with other funds in any combination from any county, city, school district, ~~or hospital~~ health care facility or health care association. The other funds may be used by the department to match the federal funds in the absence of or in addition to state funds.

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**Section 2.** There is appropriated from the budget reserve account to the department of health seven hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$720,000.00) to fund all three (3) years of the loan repayment agreements specified in W.S. 9-2-118 and two hundred forty thousand dollars (\$240,000.00) to fund all three (3) years of the loan repayment agreements specified in W.S. 9-2-119. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-4-207(a), this appropriation shall not revert to the general fund at the end of any fiscal year. Additionally, there is appropriated from the budget reserve account to the department of health thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) to administer the loan repayment program. The department shall report to the joint interim labor, health and social services interim committee by October 1, 2004, and October 1, 2005, on the administration of the loan repayment programs.

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**Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2004.

(END)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

TIME APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this act originated in the Senate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk