

**DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Physician recruitment.

Sponsored by: Joint Labor, Health and Social Services
Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to health care services; providing a grant
2 program for physician recruitment; providing for rules and
3 regulations; providing an appropriation; and providing for
4 an effective date.

5

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

7

8 **Section 1.** W.S. 35-1-1001 is created to read:

9

10

ARTICLE 11

11

PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT GRANT PROGRAM

12

13

35-1-1101. Physician recruitment grant program.

1

2 (a) There is created the Wyoming physician
3 recruitment program administered by the department.

4

5 (b) There is created the Wyoming physician
6 recruitment account. Funds in the account are continuously
7 appropriated to the department and shall be used to provide
8 grants to hospitals for physician recruitment as provided
9 in this section.

10

11 (c) The department shall promulgate rules and
12 regulations to administer the program. The rules and
13 regulations shall include provisions for:

14

15 (i) Application forms for grants under the
16 program;

17

18 (ii) Criteria for grants under the program.
19 Grants may be provided under the following conditions:

20

21 (A) The physician shall be recruited to the
22 geographic area served by the hospital;

23

1 (B) The physician shall move his medical
2 practice at least twenty-five (25) miles or the physician's
3 new medical practice shall derive at least seventy-five
4 percent (75%) of its revenues from professional services
5 furnished to patients not seen or treated at his prior
6 medical practice during the preceding three (3) years;

7

8 (C) The recruitment conditions between the
9 hospital and the physician shall meet the conditions set
10 forth in 42 C.F.R. 411.357(e), as amended March 1, 2007;

11

12 (D) Recruitment of new physicians shall be
13 based on demonstrable need. Those hospitals demonstrating
14 the greatest need, in the discretion of the department
15 shall be given the highest priority in receiving grants
16 pursuant to this section;

17

18 (E) Recruitment incentives shall not be
19 offered for longer than two (2) years;

20

21 (F) All recruitment incentives shall be in
22 writing and shall be reported on federal income tax forms;

23

1 (G) The recruited physician shall agree to
2 provide medical services in the community to which he was
3 recruited for a period of not less than four (4) years or
4 he shall repay any monies granted under this section to the
5 state of Wyoming plus interest at the rate of ten percent
6 (10%) per annum; and

7
8 (H) The recruited physician shall agree to
9 provide medical care for not less than four (4) years in
10 underserved areas of the state and shall accept patients
11 qualified under the Medical Assistance and Services Act,
12 Title XVIII of the federal Social Security Act and the
13 child health insurance program who seek medical care which
14 the health care provider is qualified to provide or he
15 shall repay any monies granted under this section to the
16 state of Wyoming plus interest at the rate of ten percent
17 (10%) per annum.

18
19 (iii) Criteria for costs that will be reimbursed
20 through grants. Costs reimbursed through grants under the
21 program may include:

22

1 (A) New income guarantees if there exists a
2 cap on total payments;

3

4 (B) Moving expenses and interview expenses;

5

6 (C) Subsidies for malpractice premiums,
7 support personnel and other practice support;

8

9 (D) Forgiveness of student loans provided
10 student loans are not forgiven through any other loan
11 repayment program and the physician guarantees at least
12 four (4) years service in the hospital's service area;

13

14 (E) Signing bonuses.

15

16 (iv) Reporting requirements for grant
17 recipients.

18

19 (d) As used in this section:

20

21 (i) "Department" means the department of health;

22

1 (ii) "Hospital" means a county memorial, rural
2 health care district or special hospital district formed
3 and licensed under the laws of the state;

4

5 (iii) "Physician" means an individual licensed
6 under the laws of this state to practice medicine;

7

8 (iv) "Program" means the Wyoming physician
9 recruitment grant program.

10

11 **Section 2.** W.S. 35-1-240(a) by creating a new
12 paragraph (xxii) is amended to read:

13

14 **35-1-240. Powers and duties.**

15

16 (a) The department of health, through the state
17 health officer, or under his direction and supervision,
18 through the other employees of the department, shall have
19 and exercise the following powers and duties:

20

21 (xxii) Administer the Wyoming physician
22 recruitment grant program provided in W.S. 35-1-1101.

23

1 **Section 3.** There is appropriated seven hundred fifty
2 thousand dollars (\$750,000.00) from the general fund to the
3 Wyoming physician recruitment account created in section 1
4 of this act for purposes of this act.

5

6 **Section 4.** This act is effective July 1, 2008.

7

8

(END)