

**DRAFT ONLY  
NOT APPROVED FOR  
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Primary care support program.

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

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to public health; creating the primary care  
2 support program; authorizing grants as specified;  
3 authorizing loans as specified; providing for investments  
4 in loans from permanent funds; providing for a local match  
5 as specified; requiring reports; providing appropriations;  
6 and providing for an effective date.

7

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

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-2-127 is created to read:

11

12 **9-2-127. Community health centers incentive program**  
13 **created; account established; grant and loan criteria.**

1

2 (a) There is created the Wyoming primary care support  
3 program administered by the Wyoming department of health.

4

5 (b) The purpose of the program is to provide support  
6 to Wyoming entities operating primary care centers in need  
7 of immediate financial assistance. Grants under subsection  
8 (e) of this section shall enhance the delivery of primary  
9 health care services for underserved and vulnerable  
10 populations.

11

12 (c) In order to qualify for the loans, a primary care  
13 center must be a nonprofit corporation, have a community  
14 board, provide services to the public regardless of ability  
15 to pay and provide proof of:

16

17 (i) Designation as a federally qualified health  
18 center or rural health center;

19

20 (ii) Steps taken to become a qualified federal  
21 health center or rural health center; or

22

1           (iii) Why status as a federally qualified or  
2 rural health center would not result in improved revenues  
3 to the center.

4  
5           (d) The primary care support account is created. The  
6 account shall consist of those funds appropriated to the  
7 account by the legislature and all monies received from  
8 federal grants and other contributions, grants, gifts,  
9 transfers, bequests and donations to the account. The  
10 account is specifically empowered to accept grants, gifts,  
11 transfers, bequests and donations. Funds in the account  
12 are continuously appropriated to the department for the  
13 purpose of providing grants under subsection (e) of this  
14 section.

15  
16           (e) The department shall establish by rule and  
17 regulation an application procedure and calendar for  
18 community health center grants and loans and adopt other  
19 rules as necessary to implement this section.

20  
21           (f) The department may provide new access point  
22 incubator grants, subject to the following:

23

1           (i) Grants may be made to community health  
2 centers and rural health clinics for one-time startup costs  
3 of a new center or, for existing centers, to expand the  
4 population served or services provided or to facilitate  
5 compliance with quality criteria;

6  
7           (ii) Grants to any one (1) facility shall not  
8 exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00);

9  
10           (iii) Grant applications shall include evidence  
11 of a commitment of local matching funds of at least twenty-  
12 five percent (25%) of the grant amount.

13  
14           (g) The department may provide loans to community  
15 health centers and rural health clinics to support  
16 infrastructure, equipment, renovations, innovative health  
17 programs or salaries of newly hired health care providers,  
18 subject to the following:

19  
20           (i) Loans shall be considered as legislatively  
21 authorized investments for purposes of W.S. 9-4-715(n);

22

1           (ii) The loans shall be from permanent funds of  
2 the state available for investment and shall not exceed the  
3 aggregate of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00) or five  
4 hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) in principal to any  
5 one (1) recipient;

6

7           (iii) The term of repayment for a loan under  
8 this section shall not exceed ten (10) years;

9

10           (iv) The department shall refer all loan  
11 agreements made under this article to the state loan and  
12 investment board for final approval or disapproval. The  
13 board shall require security for the loan as it deems  
14 necessary. The board shall set rates of interest on all  
15 loans upon a basis which will not be less than the average  
16 rate of return realized on fixed income permanent mineral  
17 trust fund investments as determined by the state treasurer  
18 for the three (3) calendar years immediately preceding the  
19 year in which the loan is made;

20

21           (v) No loan shall be made under this subsection  
22 unless:

23

1                   (A) The department of health has reviewed  
2 and approved the application pursuant to the department's  
3 rules and regulations;

4

5                   (B) The loan will improve access to health  
6 care in an underserved area of the state;

7

8                   (C) The loan proceeds will be used for cost  
9 of purchasing, constructing or renovating a healthcare  
10 facility, for appurtenant equipment which will be used to  
11 provide care to persons identified in subsection (g) of  
12 this section, for innovative health programs to serve those  
13 persons or for salaries of newly hired health care  
14 providers;

15

16                   (D) At least twenty-five percent (25%) of  
17 the total cost of the project is provided by the recipient  
18 from local funds.

19

20                   (vi) The state loan and investment board shall  
21 adopt rules and regulations to implement this subsection;

22

1           (vii) As loans made under this subsection are  
2 repaid, the principal amount repaid may be recommended by  
3 the department for new loans, within the aggregate and per  
4 recipient limits.

5  
6           (h) A grant or loan recipient under this section  
7 shall agree to provide health care services in an  
8 underserved community of the state, from among a list of  
9 communities developed by the department, for a period of at  
10 least three (3) years under the agreement. The recipient  
11 shall accept as its first priority and treat without  
12 reservation patients qualified under the Medical Assistance  
13 and Services Act, Title XVIII of the federal Social  
14 Security Act and the child health insurance program who  
15 seek medical care which the health care provider is  
16 qualified to provide.

17  
18           (j) The department of health, office or rural health  
19 care, shall:

20  
21           (i) Conduct outreach and education among  
22 persons, entities and groups interested in forming a  
23 community health center or rural health clinic and

1 submitting a new access point grant application to the  
2 United States department of health and human services,  
3 health resources and services administration;

4

5 (ii) Collect and maintain appropriate data  
6 regarding the primary care support program's effect on  
7 improvements in community and rural health.

8

9 **Section 2.**

10

11 (a) There is appropriated two million dollars  
12 (\$2,000,000.00) from the general fund to the community  
13 health center incentive account. This appropriation shall  
14 be for the period beginning with the effective date of this  
15 act. This appropriation shall only be expended for the  
16 purpose of grants to community health centers and rural  
17 health clinics pursuant to W.S. 9-2-127(e).  
18 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this  
19 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any  
20 other purpose. Any unexpended monies in the account shall  
21 not revert but shall remain in the account to be expended  
22 for the purposes specified in this act.

23



1           (b) There is appropriated two hundred thousand  
2 dollars (\$200,000.00) from the general fund to the  
3 department of health. This appropriation shall be for the  
4 period beginning with the effective date of this act and  
5 ending June 30, 2012. This appropriation shall only be  
6 expended for the purpose of data collection pursuant to  
7 W.S. 9-2-127(h). Notwithstanding any other provision of  
8 law, this appropriation shall not be transferred or  
9 expended for any other purpose and any unexpended,  
10 unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall  
11 revert as provided by law on June 30, 2012. This  
12 appropriation shall not be included in the department's  
13 2013-2014 standard biennial budget request.

14

15           **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2011.

16

17

(END)