

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0088

Health provider recruiting programs.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Wilson, Baldwin, Hunt,
Larsen and Throne and Senator(s) Dockstader,
Driskill and Peterson

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to public health and safety; increasing
2 authorized payments under the allied health care provider
3 loan repayment program; amending the physician recruitment
4 grant program to also allow recruitment of other health
5 care providers; amending grant requirements as specified;
6 providing a definition; providing an appropriation; and
7 providing for an effective date.

8

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

10

11 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-2-119(a)(ii), 35-1-1101(a) through
12 (c), (d)(ii), (e)(i) through (iv), (vi), (vii), (viii)(A),
13 (f)(iv) and by creating a new paragraph (vi) are amended
14 to read:

15

1 **9-2-119. Allied health care provider loan repayment**
2 **program.**

3
4 (a) The department is authorized to enter into
5 agreements with health care providers licensed or certified
6 to provide health care services in this state including,
7 but not limited to, hospital, medical, surgical, dental,
8 vision, nursing, radiology, mental health, speech language
9 pathology and pharmaceutical services. The agreements
10 shall:

11
12 (ii) Provide that the health care provider shall
13 be repaid up to one hundred percent (100%) of the amount of
14 outstanding educational loans the provider has acquired as
15 a direct result of undergraduate or postgraduate
16 educational training directly related to providing medical
17 services, not to exceed ~~ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00)~~
18 twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) per year, in exchange
19 for practicing under the terms of this section;

20
21 ARTICLE 11

22 PROVIDER RECRUITMENT GRANT PROGRAM

1 **35-1-1101. Provider recruitment grant program.**

2

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

5

6 (b) There is created the Wyoming ~~physician~~provider
7 recruitment account. Funds in the account are continuously
8 appropriated to the department to provide grants for
9 ~~physicians~~providers recruitment. Up to ten percent (10%) of
10 the funds may be used to advertise the ~~physician~~provider
11 recruitment program.

12

13 (c) ~~In July of each year,~~The department shall
14 solicit ~~physician~~provider recruitment applications from
15 hospitals, physicians and others seeking to recruit
16 ~~physicians~~providers. The applications shall be
17 prioritized by need based on geographic area, then by
18 medical need within the geographic area. ~~A~~Priority shall
19 be given to recruitment ~~to~~of private ~~physician~~practice
20 providers. ~~In September of each year,~~The department shall
21 issue award letters to the persons or entities receiving
22 grant authorizations within sixty (60) days after the close
23 of an application period. The grant authorizations shall

1 authorize the person or entity receiving it, for a period
2 of one (1) year, to make a firm offer of recruitment
3 incorporating the benefits authorized by this section ~~and~~
4 ~~W.S. 9-2-118~~ to a candidate, conditioned upon Wyoming
5 licensure and the candidate's signed written agreement to
6 the conditions of this section. ~~and W.S. 9-2-118.~~

7
8 (d) The department shall promulgate rules and
9 regulations to administer the program, including provisions
10 for:

11
12 (ii) Termination of grants and full or partial
13 repayment if a ~~physician~~provider fails to comply with the
14 conditions of this section, rules and regulations of the
15 department adopted pursuant to this section or the terms of
16 the written incentive agreement;

17
18 (e) Grants provided under this section shall be
19 subject to the following:

20
21 (i) The ~~physician~~provider shall be recruited to
22 a stipulated geographic area;

1 (ii) A ~~practitioner~~provider shall relocate his
2 practice to the state of Wyoming from outside of the state
3 to be eligible for a grant. ~~Practitioners~~Providers
4 relocating to the state of Wyoming to become employed by
5 the state or by the United States shall not be eligible for
6 grants. The requirement to relocate pursuant to this
7 paragraph shall not apply to ~~physicians taking~~providers
8 recruited from a family practice residency in the state or
9 ~~physicians~~recruitment of providers employed by the United
10 States department of defense;

11
12 (iii) The recruitment conditions between ~~the~~a
13 hospital and ~~the~~a physician shall meet the conditions set
14 forth in 42 C.F.R. 411.357(e), as amended~~;~~September 5,
15 2007;

16
17 (iv) Recruitment of new ~~physicians~~providers
18 shall be based on demonstrable need. Those recruiting
19 persons or entities demonstrating the greatest need, in the
20 discretion of the department shall be given the highest
21 priority in receiving grants pursuant to this section;

22

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

7
8 (vii) The recruited ~~physician~~provider shall
9 agree to provide medical care for not less than two (2)
10 years in underserved areas of the state and shall accept
11 patients qualified under the Medical Assistance and
12 Services Act, Title XVIII of the federal Social Security
13 Act and the child health insurance program who seek medical
14 care which the health care provider is qualified to provide
15 or ~~he~~the recruiting entity shall repay any monies granted
16 under this section to the state of Wyoming plus interest at
17 the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum;

18
19 (viii) Costs reimbursed through grants under the
20 program shall be documented by the provider as required by
21 the department and may include:

22

1 (A) As incentive to the ~~physician~~ provider
2 recruitment process, recruitment actual costs, up to ten
3 thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) per recruited ~~physician~~
4 provider, may be ~~reimbursed~~ provided to the successful
5 recruiting person or entity paying those costs;

6
7 (f) As used in this section:

8
9 (iv) "Program" means the Wyoming ~~physician~~
10 provider recruitment grant program;

11
12 (vi) "Provider" means an individual licensed or
13 eligible to be licensed in a health care profession under
14 title 33 of the Wyoming statutes.

15
16 **Section 2.** W.S. 35-1-1101(e) (ix) and (x) is repealed.

17
18 **Section 3.** There is appropriated five hundred
19 thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) from the general fund to the
20 department of health. This appropriation shall be for the
21 period beginning with the effective date of this act and
22 ending June 30, 2016. This appropriation shall only be
23 expended for the purpose of the health care professional

1 loan repayment program. Notwithstanding any other
2 provision of law, this appropriation shall not be
3 transferred or expended for any other purpose and any
4 unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this
5 appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30,
6 2016. This appropriation shall be included in the
7 department's 2017-2018 standard biennial budget request.

8

9 **Section 4.** This act is effective July 1, 2015.

10

11

(END)