

**Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 4, 2005**

SENATE BILL NO. 2266
(Senators Traynor, Andrist, Lindaas)
(Representatives Metcalf, Nicholas)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 43-17.2-01, subsection 5 of section 43-17.2-02, subsection 3 of section 43-17.2-03, and section 43-17.2-08 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the state-community matching physician loan repayment program and powers of the state health council.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 43-17.2-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

43-17.2-01. State-community matching physician loan repayment program.

1. The North Dakota state-community matching physician loan repayment program is established as provided by this chapter.
2. The purpose of the program is to increase the number of physicians practicing medicine in North Dakota communities with defined health professional medical need.
3. Under the program, loan repayments may be made to a recipient for educational expenses incurred while the recipient was attending an accredited four-year allopathic or osteopathic medical school located in the United States, its possessions, territories, or Canada and approved by the state board of medical examiners or by an accrediting body approved by the board.
4. ~~Loan repayment funds consist of a fifty percent match from the state and a fifty percent match from the selected community.~~
5. Each recipient is limited to a ~~forty~~ forty-five thousand dollar maximum loan repayment from the state to be paid over ~~four~~ two years. The loan repayment from the selected community must be in an amount that equals or exceeds the amount of loan repayment provided by the state. The selected community may negotiate a period of service longer than two years.
6. ~~5.~~ The state health council ~~shall~~ may select ~~up to five recipients in five communities~~ any number of recipients and communities each year as participants in the program subject to the availability of funding.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Subsection 5 of section 43-17.2-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

5. Enter into a ~~four-year~~ two-year nonrenewable loan repayment program contract with the applicant and the selected community to provide repayment of education loans in exchange for the physician agreeing to practice medicine in the selected community.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Subsection 3 of section 43-17.2-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

3. A physician who receives loan repayment under this chapter:

- a. Must be a graduate of an accredited four-year allopathic or osteopathic medical school located in the United States, its possessions, territories, or Canada and approved by the state board of medical examiners or by an accrediting body approved by the board;
- b. ~~Must be enrolled in or have graduated from an accredited graduate training program in medicine prior to or within one year after submitting an application to participate in the loan repayment program and~~ not have practiced full-time medicine in this state within three years for more than one year before the date of the application;
- c. ~~Must be licensed~~ have a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine in this state;
- d. Shall submit an application to participate in the loan repayment program; and
- e. Must have entered into an agreement with a selected community to provide full-time medical services for a minimum of ~~four~~ two years at the selected community if the applicant receives a loan repayment program contract.

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT. Section 43-17.2-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

43-17.2-08. Term of obligated service. The length of the term of obligated service of a recipient of a loan repayment under this chapter is ~~four~~ a minimum of two years.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2266.

Senate Vote: Yeas 47 Nays 0 Absent 0

House Vote: Yeas 89 Nays 3 Absent 2

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2005.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2005.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2005,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State