

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 393—ASSEMBLYWOMAN KASAMA

MARCH 23, 2023

JOINT SPONSOR: SENATOR LANGE

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Establishes the Doctors for Nevada Program to attract providers of health care to this State. (BDR 18-207)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No. Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

~

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to health care; requiring the Director of the Office of Science, Innovation and Technology in the Office of the Governor to establish and administer the Doctors for Nevada Program to reimburse the educational debt of physicians who practice in this State and to provide stipends and reimbursement of educational debt to resident physicians who commit to practicing medicine in this State; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Sections 2-7 of this bill require the Director of the Office of Science,  
2 Innovation and Technology in the Office of the Governor to establish and  
3 administer the Doctors for Nevada Program to: (1) reimburse the educational debt  
4 of physicians who relocate to this State to practice medicine; (2) provide stipends to  
5 resident physicians in any state who are unable to obtain a residency in this State  
6 because there is not available in this State any residency position in the chosen field  
7 or specialty of the resident physician and who commit to practice medicine in this  
8 State for at least 2 years after the conclusion of their residencies; and (3) reimburse  
9 the educational debt of those resident physicians after the conclusion of their  
10 residencies. Section 2 of this bill defines the term “Program” as the Doctors for  
11 Nevada Program. Section 3 of this bill requires the Director to determine the  
12 manner in which the reimbursements and stipends under the Program are required to  
13 be paid and prohibits the Program from paying more than \$200,000 in stipends



14 and reimbursements to any physician or resident physician. **Section 3** also requires  
15 a relocating physician or resident physician who does not satisfy certain conditions  
16 to reimburse the Office for the amount of the stipend and reimbursement of  
17 educational debt, as applicable, received by the physician or resident physician and  
18 to pay an additional penalty equal to the amount of such stipend and reimbursement  
19 of educational debt. **Section 4** of this bill requires the Program to be funded through  
20 a combination of: (1) penalties and reimbursements paid by such resident  
21 physicians; (2) gifts, donations, bequests, grants, devises and other sources of  
22 money; and (3) legislative appropriations. **Section 4** also creates the Physicians  
23 Recruitment Account into which that money must be deposited. **Section 5** of this  
24 bill authorizes the Director to: (1) accept any gift, donation, bequest or devise; and  
25 (2) apply for and accept any grant or other source of money for use by the Program.  
26 **Section 6** of this bill requires the Director to adopt regulations to carry out the  
27 provisions of **sections 2-7**. **Section 7** of this bill requires the Director to consult  
28 with certain advisory bodies to the Office of Science, Innovation and Technology in  
29 carrying out his or her duties to establish and administer the Program.

30 Existing law creates the Account for the Office of Science, Innovation and  
31 Technology and, with certain exceptions, requires any money accepted by the  
32 Director of the Office to be deposited in that Account. (NRS 223.630) **Section 8** of  
33 this bill exempts from this requirement certain money accepted by the Director for  
34 use by the Program.

35 **Section 9** of this bill makes an appropriation for the establishment and  
36 administration of the Program.

---

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 223 of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of this  
3 act.

4 **Sec. 2.** *As used in sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of this act, unless*  
5 *the context otherwise requires, "Program" means the Doctors for*  
6 *Nevada Program established pursuant to section 3 of this act.*

7 **Sec. 3. 1.** *To the extent that money is available pursuant to*  
8 *section 4 of this act, the Director of the Office of Science,*  
9 *Innovation and Technology shall establish and administer the*  
10 *Doctors for Nevada Program to:*

11 (a) *Reimburse the educational debt of physicians who:*  
12 (1) *Meet the requirements established by regulations*  
13 *adopted pursuant to section 6 of this act; and*

14 (2) *Relocate to this State to practice medicine.*  
15 (b) *Provide stipends to resident physicians in any state who:*  
16 (1) *Meet the requirements established by the regulations*  
17 *adopted pursuant to section 6 of this act;*

18 (2) *Are unable to obtain a residency in this State because*  
19 *there is not available in this State any residency position in the*  
20 *chosen field or specialty of the resident physician; and*



1           (3) *Commit to practice medicine in this State for at least 2*  
2 *continuous years after the conclusion of their residencies.*

3           (c) *Reimburse the educational debt of resident physicians*  
4 *described in paragraph (b) after the conclusion of their*  
5 *residencies.*

6           2. *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, the Director*  
7 *shall determine the rates of reimbursement of educational debt*  
8 *pursuant to the regulations adopted pursuant to section 6 of this*  
9 *act based on the years of service of physicians and resident*  
10 *physicians and the need for medical specialties in this State.*

11           3. *The Director shall determine the amounts of stipends*  
12 *available to resident physicians pursuant to paragraph (b) of*  
13 *subsection 1, taking into account the need for physicians and*  
14 *medical specialties in this State.*

15           4. *The total combined amount of reimbursement of*  
16 *educational debt and stipends provided to a physician or resident*  
17 *physician shall not exceed \$200,000.*

18           5. *A physician who receives reimbursement of educational*  
19 *debt pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 and does not*  
20 *practice medicine in this State for at least 2 continuous years after*  
21 *relocating to this State shall:*

22           (a) *Reimburse the Office of Science, Innovation and*  
23 *Technology for the amount of the reimbursement of educational*  
24 *debt that he or she received; and*

25           (b) *Pay an additional penalty to the Office of Science,*  
26 *Innovation and Technology equal to the amount of reimbursement*  
27 *of educational debt that he or she received.*

28           6. *A resident physician who receives a stipend pursuant to*  
29 *paragraph (b) of subsection 1 and who does not practice medicine*  
30 *in this State for at least 2 continuous years after the conclusion of*  
31 *his or her residency shall:*

32           (a) *Reimburse the Office of Science, Innovation and*  
33 *Technology for the total combined amount of the stipend and*  
34 *reimbursement of educational debt that he or she received; and*

35           (b) *Pay an additional penalty to the Office of Science,*  
36 *Innovation and Technology equal to the total combined amount of*  
37 *the stipend and reimbursement of educational debt that he or she*  
38 *received.*

39           7. *The Director of the Office of Science, Innovation and*  
40 *Technology shall not approve a physician or resident physician for*  
41 *participation in the Program if he or she has had disciplinary*  
42 *action imposed against him or her in this State or any other*  
43 *jurisdiction. If disciplinary action is imposed against a*  
44 *participating physician or resident physician, the Director shall*



1 *immediately terminate the participation of the physician or*  
2 *resident physician, as applicable, in the Program.*

3 **Sec. 4.** 1. *The Physicians Recruitment Account is hereby*  
4 *created in the State General Fund. The Director of the Office of*  
5 *Science, Innovation and Technology shall administer the Account.*

6 2. *The funding to carry out the provisions of sections 2 to 7,*  
7 *inclusive, of this act, other than the funding provided pursuant to*  
8 *subsection 5 or 6 of section 3 of this act and section 5 of this act,*  
9 *must be provided by legislative appropriation from the State*  
10 *General Fund to the Account.*

11 3. *The Director of the Office of Science, Innovation and*  
12 *Technology shall deposit:*

13 (a) *Any reimbursement or penalty paid pursuant to subsection*  
14 *5 or 6 of section 3 of this act; and*

15 (b) *Any money received pursuant to section 5 of this act,*  
16 *↪ in the Account.*

17 4. *Any money remaining in the Account at the end of a fiscal*  
18 *year, including, without limitation, any unexpended*  
19 *appropriations made to the Account from the State General Fund,*  
20 *does not revert to the State General Fund, and the balance in the*  
21 *Account must be carried forward to the next fiscal year.*

22 5. *The money in the Account must only be used to carry out*  
23 *the provisions of sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of this act.*

24 **Sec. 5.** *The Director of the Office of Science, Innovation and*  
25 *Technology may:*

26 1. *Accept any gift, donation, bequest or devise; or*

27 2. *Apply for and accept any grant or other source of money*  
28 *for use by the Program.*

29 **Sec. 6.** *The Director of the Office of Science, Innovation and*  
30 *Technology shall adopt any regulations necessary to carry out the*  
31 *provisions of sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of this act. Those*  
32 *regulations must establish:*

33 1. *Eligibility requirements for a physician or resident*  
34 *physician to participate in the Program;*

35 2. *The procedure by which a physician or resident physician*  
36 *may apply to participate in the Program; and*

37 3. *Procedures for awarding stipends and reimbursing*  
38 *educational debt pursuant to section 3 of this act.*

39 **Sec. 7.** *In carrying out his or her duties to establish and*  
40 *administer the Program pursuant to sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of*  
41 *this act, the Director of the Office of Science, Innovation and*  
42 *Technology shall consult with any advisory body to the Office of*  
43 *Science, Innovation and Technology which provides*  
44 *recommendations on:*



1 *1. Enlarging the graduate medical workforce in this State;*  
2 *and*

3 *2. Optimally distributing funds appropriated by the*  
4 *Legislature to carry out the provisions of sections 2 to 7, inclusive,*  
5 *of this act.*

6 **Sec. 8.** NRS 223.630 is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 223.630 1. The Account for the Office of Science, Innovation  
8 and Technology is hereby created in the State General Fund. The  
9 Account must be administered by the Director of the Office of  
10 Science, Innovation and Technology.

11 2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 223.660 ~~§~~ *and*  
12 *subsection 3 of section 4 of this act and section 5 of this act*, any  
13 money accepted pursuant to NRS 223.620 must be deposited in the  
14 Account.

15 3. The interest and income earned on the money in the  
16 Account, after deducting any applicable charges, must be credited to  
17 the Account.

18 4. The money in the Account must only be used to carry out  
19 the duties of the Director.

20 5. Claims against the Account must be paid as other claims  
21 against the State are paid.

22 **Sec. 9.** There is hereby appropriated from the State General  
23 Fund to the Physicians Recruitment Account created by section 4 of  
24 this act the sum of \$2,000,000 for the establishment and  
25 administration of the Doctors for Nevada Program pursuant to  
26 sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of this act.

27 **Sec. 10.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and  
28 approval.

29 2. Sections 1 to 8, inclusive, of this act become effective:

30 (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any  
31 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative  
32 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

33 (b) On October 1, 2023, for all other purposes.

34 3. Section 9 of this act becomes effective on October 1, 2023.







