

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

3 SENATE BILL 1526

By: Yen

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to the Physician Manpower Training  
8 Commission; amending 63 O.S. 2011, Section 1-2721,  
9 which relates to physician requirements; amending 63  
10 O.S. 2011, Section 1-2722, which relates to certain  
11 rewards; amending 63 O.S. 2011, Section 1-2723, which  
12 relates to program funding; transferring certain  
13 duties and authorizations from Commission to Oklahoma  
14 Department of Commerce; providing an effective date;  
15 and declaring an emergency.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

17 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2011, Section 1-2721, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 Section 1-2721. A. 1. ~~The Physician Manpower Training~~  
20 ~~Commission~~ Oklahoma Department of Commerce shall administer the  
21 Oklahoma Medical Loan Repayment Program.

22 2. For the purposes of this section, "primary care physicians"  
23 shall mean physicians practicing in family medicine, geriatrics,  
24 general internal medicine, general pediatrics,  
obstetrics/gynecology, or emergency medicine.

1 3. The Program, depending upon and limited to available  
2 funding, shall provide educational loan repayment assistance to  
3 Oklahoma licensed primary care physicians who agree to establish a  
4 practice in a community located in Oklahoma approved by the  
5 ~~Commission~~ Department.

6 4. Each award shall be for a contracted period and shall be  
7 distributed to the participant by drafts made payable to the  
8 participant at the end of each contract year with disbursements not  
9 to exceed an amount to be established annually by the ~~Commission~~  
10 Department. Prior to any disbursement, the ~~Commission~~ Department  
11 shall certify and properly review reports submitted by the  
12 participating physician detailing performance of activities in  
13 accordance with the Program.

14 5. At the conclusion of an initial two-year period, the  
15 ~~Commission~~ Department shall review the performance in the Program of  
16 the participating physician and determine whether an award may be  
17 granted for additional years pursuant to rules promulgated by the  
18 ~~Commission~~ Department.

19 B. The physicians entering the Program each year shall agree to  
20 provide medical care and services in areas designated by the  
21 ~~Commission~~ Department to provide medical care and services to  
22 Medicaid recipients as authorized by the Oklahoma Health Care  
23 Authority.

1 C. A physician shall be eligible to participate in the loan  
2 repayment program if the physician:

3 1. Is licensed to practice medicine in Oklahoma;

4 2. Is a new primary care residency graduate. Preference will  
5 be given to graduates of the primary care residency programs  
6 affiliated with the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic  
7 Medicine, the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine and the  
8 teaching hospitals affiliated with both schools of medicine; or

9 3. Is a current practicing physician and has met criteria  
10 established by the ~~Commission~~ Department.

11 D. The physician shall agree to practice in the designated need  
12 areas identified by the ~~Commission~~ Department for no fewer than two  
13 (2) consecutive years as a condition of the loan repayment. If the  
14 physician does not fulfill the service obligation, the ~~Commission~~  
15 Department may collect from the participant the entire amount of  
16 loan payments made under the Program plus interest.

17 E. The ~~Commission~~ Department shall present a report on the  
18 operation of the Program to the Governor, the Speaker of the House  
19 of Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate  
20 within one (1) month of the beginning of each regular session of the  
21 Legislature, including but not limited to the progress made in  
22 accomplishing the goal of the Program.

23 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2011, Section 1-2722, is  
24 amended to read as follows:

1 Section 1-2722. The amount of the award of educational loan  
2 repayment assistance shall not exceed any maximum or minimum amount  
3 as promulgated by rules of the ~~Physician Manpower Training~~  
4 ~~Commission~~ Oklahoma Department of Commerce pursuant to the Oklahoma  
5 Medical Loan Repayment Program. The actual amount of the award  
6 shall be based upon a determination of:

- 7 1. Actual funds available to the Program for expenditure; and
- 8 2. The existing student loan indebtedness of the participating  
9 physician.

10 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2011, Section 1-2723, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 Section 1-2723. A. The ~~Physician Manpower Training Commission~~  
13 Oklahoma Department of Commerce shall have the option of utilizing  
14 available funding in excess of the amount necessary to fund the  
15 Oklahoma Medical Loan Repayment Program described in Section 1-2721  
16 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes to fund new or expanded primary  
17 care residency programs in rural and underserved areas of the state.  
18 Such new or expanded primary care residency program funding shall  
19 include but not be limited to:

- 20 1. Payments to hospitals desiring to establish new primary care  
21 residency programs. Such payments shall be made to cover the costs  
22 of salaries, benefits and educational costs of residents in training  
23 at the facility;

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1        2. Payments to hospitals with existing primary residency  
2 programs desiring to expand the number of residents participating in  
3 those programs. Such payments shall be made to cover the costs of  
4 salaries, benefits and educational costs of residents in training at  
5 the facility; or

6        3. Payments of stipends to residents of new or existing primary  
7 care residency programs in exchange for a commitment to serve in a  
8 rural or underserved area of the state as designated by the  
9 ~~Commission~~ Department.

10        B. Provisions of this section shall be subject to the  
11 promulgated rules of the ~~Commission~~ Department.

12        SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2016.

13        SECTION 5. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
14 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
15 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
16 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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