

**House File 360 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 360

BY KAUFMANN

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act establishing a medical student promise tax credit and  
2 a medical student promise fund under the control of the  
3 college student aid commission, and including effective date  
4 and retroactive applicability provisions.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 261.70 Medical student promise tax  
2 credit.

3 1. *Definitions.* For purposes of this section, unless the  
4 context otherwise requires:

5 a. "*Commission*" means the college student aid commission.

6 b. "*Eligible degree*" means a master of physician assistant  
7 studies or a doctor of medicine, pharmacy, dental surgery, or  
8 osteopathy degree.

9 c. "*Eligible university*" means the state university of Iowa  
10 college of medicine or Des Moines university - osteopathic  
11 medical center.

12 d. "*Fund*" means the medical student promise fund.

13 e. "*Medical student*" means an individual who has entered  
14 into a promise agreement and is enrolled full-time at an  
15 eligible university in a curriculum leading to an eligible  
16 degree.

17 f. "*Promise agreement*" means the agreement entered into in  
18 subsection 3.

19 2. *Tax credit.*

20 a. A tax credit shall be allowed against the taxes imposed  
21 in chapter 422, divisions II, III, and V, and in chapter 432,  
22 and against the moneys and credits tax imposed in section  
23 533.329, for a portion of the amount of the voluntary cash or  
24 noncash contributions made by the taxpayer during the tax year  
25 to the medical student promise fund.

26 b. An individual may claim a tax credit under this section  
27 of a partnership, limited liability company, S corporation,  
28 estate, or trust electing to have income taxed directly to  
29 the individual. The amount claimed by the individual shall  
30 be based upon the pro rata share of the individual's earnings  
31 from the partnership, limited liability company, S corporation,  
32 estate, or trust.

33 c. The amount of a tax credit allowed under this section  
34 shall equal twenty-five percent of the amount of the taxpayer's  
35 voluntary cash contributions made by the taxpayer during the

1 tax year to the medical student promise fund.

2 *d.* (1) To receive a tax credit, a taxpayer must submit  
3 an application to the commission. The commission shall issue  
4 certificates under this section on a first-come, first-served  
5 basis, which certificates may be redeemed for tax credits. In  
6 allocating tax credits pursuant to this section, the commission  
7 shall allocate one million dollars in the aggregate for  
8 purposes of this section, unless the commission determines that  
9 the tax credits awarded will be less than that amount.

10 (2) If in a fiscal year the aggregate amount of tax credits  
11 applied for exceeds the amount allocated for that fiscal year  
12 under this paragraph "*d*", the commission shall establish a  
13 wait list for certificates. Applications that were approved  
14 but for which certificates were not issued shall be placed  
15 on the wait list in the order the applications were received  
16 by the commission and shall be given priority for receiving  
17 certificates in succeeding fiscal years.

18 *e.* The commission shall, in cooperation with the  
19 department of revenue, establish criteria and procedures  
20 for the allocation and issuance of tax credits by means of  
21 certificates issued by the commission. The criteria shall  
22 include the contingencies that must be met for a certificate  
23 to be redeemable in order to receive a tax credit. The  
24 procedures established by the commission, in cooperation with  
25 the department of revenue, shall relate to the procedures for  
26 the issuance and transfer of the certificates and for the  
27 redemption of a certificate and related tax credit.

28 *f.* A certificate and related tax credit issued pursuant to  
29 this section shall be deemed a vested right of the original  
30 holder or any transferee thereof, and the state shall not cause  
31 either to be redeemed in such a way that amends or rescinds the  
32 certificate or that curtails, limits, or withdraws the related  
33 tax credit, except as otherwise provided in this section or  
34 upon consent of the proper holder. A certificate issued  
35 pursuant to this section cannot pledge the credit of the state

1 and any such certificate so pledged to secure the debt of the  
2 original holder or a transferee shall not constitute a contract  
3 binding the state.

4 *g.* Any tax credit in excess of the taxpayer's liability  
5 for the tax year may be credited to the tax liability for the  
6 following five years or until depleted, whichever is earlier.  
7 A tax credit shall not be carried back to a tax year prior to  
8 the tax year in which the taxpayer claims the tax credit.

9 *h.* Tax credit certificates issued pursuant to this section  
10 may be transferred, in whole or in part, to any person. A tax  
11 credit certificate shall only be transferred once. Within  
12 ninety days of transfer, the transferee shall submit the  
13 transferred tax credit certificate to the department of revenue  
14 along with a statement containing the transferee's name, tax  
15 identification number, and address, the denomination that each  
16 replacement tax credit certificate is to carry, and any other  
17 information required by the department of revenue.

18 *i.* Within thirty days of receiving the transferred tax  
19 credit certificate and the transferee's statement, the  
20 department of revenue shall issue one or more replacement  
21 tax credit certificates to the transferee. Each replacement  
22 tax credit certificate must contain the information required  
23 for the original tax credit certificate. A replacement tax  
24 credit certificate may designate a different tax than the tax  
25 designated on the original tax credit certificate. A tax  
26 credit shall not be claimed by a transferee under this section  
27 until a replacement tax credit certificate identifying the  
28 transferee as the proper holder has been issued.

29 *j.* The transferee may use the amount of the tax credit  
30 transferred against the taxes imposed in chapter 422, divisions  
31 II, III, and V, and in chapter 432, and against the moneys and  
32 credits tax imposed in section 533.329, for any tax year the  
33 original transferor could have claimed the tax credit. Any  
34 consideration received for the transfer of the tax credit shall  
35 not be included as income under chapter 422, divisions II,

1 III, and V. Any consideration paid for the transfer of the tax  
2 credit shall not be deducted from income under chapter 422,  
3 divisions II, III, and V.

4 3. *Promise agreement.* A promise agreement shall be entered  
5 into by a medical student and the commission when the medical  
6 student begins the curriculum leading to an eligible degree.  
7 Under the promise agreement, a medical student shall agree to  
8 and shall fulfill all of the following requirements:

9 a. If the medical student is enrolled in a curriculum  
10 leading to a doctor of medicine, pharmacy, dental surgery, or  
11 osteopathy degree, or master of physician assistant studies,  
12 apply for, enter, and complete an Iowa-based residency program.

13 b. Apply for and obtain a license to practice as a physician  
14 assistant pursuant to chapter 148C, a license to practice as a  
15 physician and surgeon or an osteopathic physician and surgeon  
16 licensed pursuant to chapter 148, or pharmacist pursuant to  
17 chapter 155A, or a dentist licensed pursuant to chapter 153.

18 c. Within nine months of graduating from a residency  
19 program, if applicable, and receiving a permanent license in  
20 accordance with paragraph "b", reside in Iowa and engage in the  
21 full-time practice in Iowa as a physician assistant, a dentist,  
22 or a doctor of medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine  
23 and surgery or a pharmacist for a period of sixty consecutive  
24 months.

25 4. *Postponement and satisfaction of service obligation.*

26 a. The obligation to engage in practice in accordance with  
27 subsection 3 may be postponed for the following purposes:

28 (1) Active duty status in the armed forces, the armed forces  
29 military reserve, or the national guard.

30 (2) Service in volunteers in service to America.

31 (3) Service in the federal peace corps.

32 (4) A period of service commitment to the United States  
33 public health service commissioned corps.

34 (5) A period of religious missionary work conducted by an  
35 organization exempt from federal income taxation pursuant to

1 section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

2 (6) Any period of temporary medical incapacity during which  
3 the person obligated is unable, due to a medical condition, to  
4 engage in full-time practice as required under subsection 3,  
5 paragraph "c".

6 b. Except for a postponement under paragraph "a",  
7 subparagraph (6), an obligation to engage in practice under  
8 a promise agreement shall not be postponed for more than  
9 two years from the time the full-time practice was to have  
10 commenced under the promise agreement.

11 c. An obligation to engage in full-time practice under a  
12 promise agreement shall be considered satisfied when any of the  
13 following conditions are met:

14 (1) The terms of the promise agreement are completed.

15 (2) The person who entered into the promise agreement dies.

16 (3) The person who entered into the promise agreement is  
17 unable, due to a permanent disability, to practice as provided  
18 in the agreement.

19 d. If an individual fails to fulfill the obligation to  
20 engage in practice in accordance with the promise agreement,  
21 the individual shall be subject to repayment to the commission  
22 of the amount paid by the commission to reduce the individual's  
23 educational loan interest rate plus interest as specified by  
24 rule.

25 5. *Fund created.*

26 a. A medical student promise fund is created as a  
27 revolving fund in the state treasury under the control of the  
28 commission. The fund shall consist of all moneys deposited  
29 in the fund pursuant to this section, any funds received  
30 from other sources, and interest and earnings thereon. The  
31 commission is the trustee of the fund and shall administer  
32 the fund. Any loss to the fund shall be charged against the  
33 fund and the commission shall not be personally liable for  
34 such loss. Moneys in the fund are not subject to section  
35 8.33. Notwithstanding section 12C.7, subsection 2, interest or

1 earnings on moneys in the fund shall be credited to the fund.

2     *b.* Moneys in the fund shall be used by the commission to  
3 reduce the interest rate charged to a medical student for an  
4 educational loan to a rate that is not more than one-half of  
5 the interest rate currently charged for federal educational  
6 loans under the federal Higher Education Act of 1965, as  
7 amended and codified in 20 U.S.C. §1071 et seq.

8     6. *Information upon request.* An eligible university shall  
9 collect and provide to the commission any information required  
10 by the commission for the administration of this section in the  
11 manner and form prescribed by the commission.

12     7. *Report.* On or before January 15 of each year, the  
13 commission, in cooperation with the department of revenue,  
14 shall submit to the general assembly and the governor a report  
15 describing the activities of the medical student promise fund  
16 during the preceding fiscal year. The report shall at a  
17 minimum include the following information:

18     *a.* The amount of tax credit certificates issued to  
19 individuals pursuant to this section.

20     *b.* The amount of approved tax credit applications that were  
21 placed on the wait list for certificates.

22     *c.* The amount of tax credits claimed.

23     *d.* The amount of tax credits transferred to other persons.

24     *e.* The amount of the voluntary cash or noncash contributions  
25 made by taxpayers during the tax year to the medical student  
26 promise fund.

27     Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 422.11K Medical student promise tax  
28 credits.

29     The taxes imposed under this division, less the credits  
30 allowed under section 422.12, shall be reduced by a medical  
31 student promise tax credit allowed under section 261.70.

32     Sec. 3. Section 422.33, Code 2015, is amended by adding the  
33 following new subsection:

34     NEW SUBSECTION. 22. The taxes imposed under this division  
35 shall be reduced by a medical student promise tax credit

1 allowed under section 261.70.

2 Sec. 4. Section 422.60, Code 2015, is amended by adding the  
3 following new subsection:

4 NEW SUBSECTION. 14. The taxes imposed under this division  
5 shall be reduced by a medical student promise tax credit  
6 allowed under section 261.70.

7 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. **432.12N Medical student promise tax**  
8 **credit.**

9 The taxes imposed under this chapter shall be reduced by  
10 a medical student promise tax credit allowed under section  
11 261.70.

12 Sec. 6. Section 533.329, subsection 2, Code 2015, is amended  
13 by adding the following new paragraph:

14 NEW PARAGRAPH. 1. The moneys and credits tax imposed under  
15 this section shall be reduced by a medical student promise tax  
16 credit allowed under section 261.70.

17 Sec. 7. **EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT.** This Act, being deemed of  
18 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

19 Sec. 8. **RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY.** This Act applies  
20 retroactively to January 1, 2015, for tax years beginning on  
21 or after that date for purposes of the medical student promise  
22 tax credit and for cash and noncash contributions made to the  
23 medical student promise fund created pursuant to section 261.70  
24 made on or after that date.

25 **EXPLANATION**

26 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
27 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

28 This bill establishes a medical student promise tax credit  
29 and a medical student promise fund under the control of the  
30 college student aid commission for the purpose of providing  
31 a means for reducing the interest rate charged to a medical  
32 student for an educational loan to an amount of interest that  
33 is not more than one-half of the interest rate currently  
34 charged for federal educational loans.

35 **TAX CREDIT.** The tax credit is allowed against the personal



1 and corporate income tax, franchise tax, insurance premium tax,  
2 and the moneys and credits tax.

3 To receive a certificate which may be redeemed for a tax  
4 credit, the taxpayer must submit an application to the college  
5 student aid commission. The commission must issue certificates  
6 on a first-come, first-served basis. In allocating tax  
7 credits, the commission shall allocate \$1 million in the  
8 aggregate for certificates for tax credits, unless the  
9 commission determines that the tax credits awarded will be  
10 less than that amount. If the amount of applications exceeds  
11 the available tax credits in a fiscal year, the commission is  
12 required to establish a wait list and give priority in later  
13 years to applications on the wait list.

14 The taxpayer may transfer a tax credit once, and the bill  
15 establishes procedures for transferring the credit to another  
16 person. Within 90 days of transfer, the transferee must submit  
17 the transferred tax credit certificate to the department of  
18 revenue along with a statement containing information specified  
19 in the bill. Within 30 days of receiving the transferred  
20 tax credit certificate and the transferee's statement, the  
21 department of revenue must issue one or more replacement tax  
22 credit certificates to the transferee. A replacement tax  
23 credit certificate may designate a different tax than the  
24 tax designated on the original tax credit certificate. Any  
25 consideration received for the transfer of the tax credit shall  
26 not be included as income. Any consideration paid for the  
27 transfer of the tax credit shall not be deducted from income.

28 The commission must, in cooperation with the department of  
29 revenue, establish criteria and procedures for the allocation  
30 and issuance of tax credits by means of certificates issued by  
31 the commission. The criteria shall include the contingencies  
32 that must be met for a certificate to be redeemable in order to  
33 receive a tax credit.

34 Any tax credit in excess of the taxpayer's liability for the  
35 tax year may be credited to the tax liability for the following

1 five years or until depleted, whichever is earlier. A tax  
2 credit shall not be carried back to a tax year prior to the tax  
3 year in which the taxpayer claims the tax credit.

4 PROMISE AGREEMENT. To be eligible for the reduction in  
5 the interest rate charged for an educational loan, a medical  
6 student must enter into a promise agreement with the commission  
7 and be enrolled full-time in an eligible university in a  
8 curriculum leading to an eligible degree. "Eligible degree"  
9 means a master of physician assistant studies or a doctor of  
10 medicine, pharmacy, dental surgery, or osteopathy degree;  
11 and "eligible university" means the state university of Iowa  
12 college of medicine or Des Moines university - osteopathic  
13 medical center.

14 Under the promise agreement, a medical student shall agree  
15 to and shall fulfill certain requirements, including completing  
16 a residency if applicable, applying for and obtaining a license  
17 to practice, residing in Iowa, and engaging in full-time  
18 practice in the state as a physician assistant, a dentist, or  
19 a doctor of medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and  
20 surgery, or pharmacist for a period of 60 consecutive months.

21 The bill provides for the postponement and satisfaction  
22 of the obligation to practice full time in Iowa. Practice  
23 may be postponed for certain purposes, such as active duty  
24 status in the armed forces, the armed forces military reserve,  
25 or the national guard; service in volunteers in service to  
26 America; service in the federal peace corps; a period of  
27 service commitment to the United States public health service  
28 commissioned corps; a period of religious missionary work; or  
29 any period of temporary medical incapacity during which the  
30 person obligated is unable to engage in full-time practice.  
31 However, except for medical incapacity, an obligation to engage  
32 in practice shall not be postponed for more than two years from  
33 the time the full-time practice was to have commenced under the  
34 promise agreement.

35 The practice obligation shall be considered satisfied when

1 the terms of the agreement are completed or the person dies or  
2 is unable to practice due to a permanent disability.

3 If an individual's obligation is not postponed or satisfied,  
4 and the person fails to fulfill the obligation to practice,  
5 the individual is subject to repayment to the commission of  
6 the amount paid by the commission to reduce the individual's  
7 educational loan interest rate plus interest as specified by  
8 rule.

9 MEDICAL STUDENT PROMISE FUND CREATED. A medical student  
10 promise fund is created as a revolving fund in the state  
11 treasury under the control of the commission and administered  
12 by the commission. Moneys in the fund shall be used by the  
13 commission to reduce the interest rate charged to a medical  
14 student for an educational loan to a rate that is not more  
15 than half of the interest rate currently charged for federal  
16 educational loans. Any loss to the fund shall be charged  
17 against the fund and the commission shall not be personally  
18 liable for such loss. Moneys in the fund do not revert to the  
19 general fund of the state and interest or earnings on moneys in  
20 the fund are to be credited to the fund.

21 INFORMATION/REPORTS/REVIEW. On or before January 15 of each  
22 year, the commission, in cooperation with the department of  
23 revenue, must submit to the general assembly and the governor  
24 a report describing the commission's activities relating to  
25 the medical student promise fund during the preceding fiscal  
26 year, including information regarding the applications placed  
27 on the wait list, contributions made, certificates issued, and  
28 tax credits claimed. An eligible university shall collect  
29 and provide to the commission any information required by the  
30 commission for administration of the fund.

31 EFFECTIVE DATE AND RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY PROVISIONS.  
32 The bill takes effect upon enactment and applies retroactively  
33 to January 1, 2015, for tax years beginning, and contributions  
34 made to the fund, on or after that date.