

House File 196 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 196
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 5)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act expanding the health care professional recruitment
2 program.

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

1 Section 1. Section 261.115, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2021,
2 are amended to read as follows:

3 1. A health care professional recruitment program is
4 established to be administered by the college student aid
5 commission for ~~Des Moines university — osteopathic medical~~
6 ~~center~~ students who graduate from an academic program at an
7 eligible institution that leads to licensure as a health care
8 professional. The program shall consist of a loan repayment
9 program for health care professionals. The commission shall
10 regularly adjust the service requirement under each aspect
11 of the program to provide, to the extent possible, an equal
12 financial benefit for each period of service required.

13 2. A health care professional shall be eligible for the
14 loan repayment program if the health care professional agrees
15 to practice in an eligible rural community in this state.
16 ~~Des Moines university — osteopathic medical center~~ Eligible
17 institutions offering academic programs that lead to licensure
18 as a health care professional shall recruit and place health
19 care professionals in rural communities which have agreed to
20 provide additional funds for the recipient's loan repayment.
21 The contract for the loan repayment shall stipulate the time
22 period the recipient shall practice in an eligible rural
23 community in this state. In addition, the contract shall
24 stipulate that the recipient repay any funds paid on the
25 recipient's loan by the commission if the recipient fails to
26 practice in an eligible rural community in this state for the
27 required period of time.

28 Sec. 2. Section 261.115, subsection 5, Code 2021, is amended
29 by adding the following new paragraph:

30 NEW PARAGRAPH. *0a. "Eligible institution" means an*
31 *institution of higher learning governed by the state board of*
32 *regents or an accredited private institution as defined in*
33 *section 261.9.*

34

EXPLANATION

35 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with

1 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

2 This bill expands the health care professional recruitment
3 program to include health professionals who graduate from
4 and are recruited by eligible institutions to practice in an
5 eligible rural community in this state that matches state
6 funds for educational loan repayment for the health care
7 professional.

8 Currently, only health care professionals who graduate
9 from Des Moines university — osteopathic medical center are
10 eligible for the program. The bill adds that the health care
11 professionals must have graduated from an academic program that
12 leads to licensure. "Eligible institution" is defined in the
13 bill as a regents university or accredited private institution.
14 "Health care professional" is defined in statute to mean
15 a physician, physician assistant, podiatrist, or physical
16 therapist.