

**House File 5 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 5

BY BOSSMAN

**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.