DIGEST

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HB 329 Original

2024 Regular Session

Myers

Abstract: Provides relative to the Health Care Employment Reinvestment Opportunity (H.E.R.O.) Fund.

<u>Present law</u> establishes the Health Care Employment Reinvestment Opportunity (H.E.R.O.) Fund as a special fund in the state treasury and provides that monies in the fund shall consist of legislative appropriations and grants and donations.

<u>Present law</u> provides that subject to legislative appropriation and the approval of the Bd. of Regents, the La. Health Works Commission is directed to determine how monies in the fund are allocated and expended solely and exclusively for the following purposes and in the following priorities:

- (1) Meet the current and growing employment demands for nursing and allied health professionals by increasing the capacity of nursing and allied health training programs through supporting initiatives such as increasing faculty positions and clinical preceptors in nursing and allied health schools.
- (2) Support the nursing and allied health professions by providing incentives that financially support student financial stipends and tuition forgiveness contingent upon employment in Louisiana health care facilities or nursing or allied health schools.
- (3) Provide incentives for nursing and allied health care professionals to practice in Louisiana with an emphasis on medically underserved areas of the state.

<u>Present law</u> requires the La. Health Works Commission to submit the fund allocation plan to the Bd. of Regents on or before Oct. first annually.

<u>Proposed law</u> makes technical changes to <u>present law</u>.

(Amends R.S. 17:3050.11(C)(1))