
The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Greg Waddell.

DIGEST

Heitmeier (SB 178)

Proposed law creates the Medical and Allied Health Professional Education Scholarship and Loan Program to be created and administered by the Board of Regents.

Proposed law provides that the Board of Regents shall require that all recipients of scholarship or loan funds, pursuant to this program, agree in writing to return to the state to practice for a minimum of one and one-half years for each year receiving the scholarship and to maintain enrollment in the Medicaid program during their service.

Proposed law provides that the Board of Regents may access state, federal, or grant funding made available to the department for the purpose of fulfilling the scholarships or loans offered in accordance with the provisions of proposed law.

Proposed law authorizes the Board of Regents to enter agreements with a public trust and public corporation duly organized pursuant to present law, having for its beneficiary the state for purpose of administering and providing for a loan program to provide low interest loans to students seeking medical education for which there are no associated medical educational programs offered in the state. Proposed law further provides that the public trust and public corporation duly organized pursuant to present law, having for its beneficiary the State, may issue bonds, notes, or other obligations to the public and others for the purposes of proposed law.

Proposed law creates, as a special fund in the state treasury, the Medical and Allied Health Professional Education Scholarship and Loan Fund.

Proposed law provides that the DHH shall deposit into the state treasury an amount no less than 25 percent of the monies, not to exceed two hundred thousand dollars in any fiscal year, retained by the DHH from local intergovernmental transfers which are transferred for the purpose of making supplemental payments to physicians.

Proposed law provides that monies in this fund shall be used solely for the provision of the Medical and Allied Health Professional Education Scholarship and Loan Program as provided for by proposed law and only in the amounts appropriated by the legislature.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 40:1300.8.1 - 1300.8.2)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill.

1. Removes requirement that scholarship and loan recipients maintain an open panel for Medicaid, Medicare, and uninsured patients and replaces it with the requirement that the recipient maintain enrollment as a provider in the Medicaid program.
2. Limits the annual deposit made by the Department of Health and Hospitals to \$200,000.