



State of Wisconsin
2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-0550/P1
MDK:ahc

DOA:.....Ames, BB0023 - Loan repayments for rural dentists

FOR 2019-2021 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

AN ACT ...; relating to: the budget.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

EDUCATION

HIGHER EDUCATION

This bill allows dentists who agree to practice in rural areas under an educational loan repayment assistance program to receive the same amount of assistance as physicians. The program is administered by the Board of Regents of the UW System. Under current law, dentists and physicians who agree to practice at least 32 clinic hours per week for three years in areas with shortages of dental or primary care professionals may receive up to \$50,000 in assistance under the program. In addition, a physician who agrees to practice for the same duration in a rural area may receive up to \$100,000 in assistance under the program. However, dentists who agree to practice for the same duration in a rural area are eligible for up to \$50,000 in assistance. This bill makes dentists who agree to practice for the same duration in rural areas eligible for up to \$100,000 in assistance.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 36.60 (2) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

36.60 (2) (a) 2. The board may repay, on behalf of a physician or dentist who agrees under sub. (3) to practice in a rural area, up to \$100,000 in educational loans obtained by the physician or dentist from a public or private lending institution for education in an accredited school of medicine or dentistry or for postgraduate medical or dental training.

SECTION 2. 36.60 (4m) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

36.60 (4m) LOAN REPAYMENT; RURAL PHYSICIANS AND DENTISTS. (intro.) If a physician or dentist agrees under sub. (3) to practice in a rural area, principal and interest due on the loan, exclusive of any penalties, may be repaid by the board at the following rate:

SECTION 9347. Initial applicability; University of Wisconsin System.

(1) DENTIST LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. The treatment of s. 36.60 (2) (a) 2. and (4m) (intro.) first applies to dentists whose applications for the program under s. 36.60 are received on the effective date of this subsection.

(END)