



State of Wisconsin  
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1056/P1  
JAM:cdc

DOA:.....Bollhorst, BB0382 - Loan repayments for rural dentists

**FOR 2021-2023 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION**

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

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*Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

**EDUCATION**

**HIGHER EDUCATION**

***Dentist loan assistance program***

This bill permits 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 Board of Regents of the UW System administers the program. Under current law, a dentist or physician who agrees to practice at least 32 clinic hours per week for three years in either a free or charitable clinic, or in an area with a shortage of dental or primary care professionals may receive up to \$50,000 in assistance under the program. 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. A dentist who agrees to practice for the same duration in a rural area may receive up to \$50,000 in assistance under the program. The bill permits dentists who agree to practice for the same duration in rural areas to receive up to \$100,000 in assistance under the program.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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***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)