# Wisconsin Legislative Council

## AMENDMENT MEMO

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2023 Assembly Bill 255

#### **Assembly Amendment 1**

#### 2023 ASSEMBLY BILL 255

This bill establishes a grant program administered by the Higher Educational Aids Board to encourage pharmacists to engage in the practice of pharmacy in medically underserved areas in this state. To be eligible for the program, a pharmacist must engage in the practice of pharmacy in an area designated as a medically underserved area by the Secretary of the federal Department of Health and Human Services and commit to do so for at least three years after graduation from a school of pharmacy.

Under the program, up to 10 eligible pharmacists per year may be provided up to \$30,000 per year in financial assistance for up to three years. Additionally, a student enrolled in a school of pharmacy may apply to the program prior to becoming a licensed pharmacist. Under the bill, any amount of financial assistance that a pharmacist receives under the program is exempt from taxation.

#### ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 defines an "independent pharmacy" as one that is licensed either in this state or out of this state and under common ownership with no more than four other pharmacies or one that is licensed in this state and the licensee is a federally recognized Indian tribe in this state. Assembly Amendment 1 changes the eligibility for participation in the grant program to require a pharmacist grantee to practice in an independent pharmacy in a medically underserved area in this state.

### **BILL HISTORY**

Representative Dallman introduced Assembly Amendment 1 on February 14, 2024. On February 20, 2024, the Assembly adopted the amendment and passed the bill by a vote of Ayes, 99; Noes, 0.

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's bill history page.

PJH:jal