

AMENDMENTS TO LB1007

Introduced by Health and Human Services.

1           1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new  
2 sections:

3           Section 1. Section 71-5668, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
4 amended to read:

5           71-5668 Each loan repayment recipient shall execute an agreement  
6 with the department and a local entity. Such agreement shall be exempt  
7 from the requirements of sections 73-501 to 73-510 and shall include, at  
8 a minimum, the following terms:

9           (1) The loan repayment recipient agrees to practice his or her  
10 profession, and a physician, dentist, nurse practitioner, or physician  
11 assistant also agrees to practice an approved specialty, in a designated  
12 health profession shortage area for at least three years and to accept  
13 medicaid patients in his or her practice;

14           (2) In consideration of the agreement by the recipient, the State of  
15 Nebraska and a local entity within the designated health profession  
16 shortage area will provide equal funding for the repayment of the  
17 recipient's qualified educational debts except as provided in subdivision  
18 (5) of this section, in amounts up to thirty thousand dollars per year  
19 per recipient for physicians, dentists, and psychologists and up to  
20 fifteen thousand dollars per year per recipient for physician assistants,  
21 nurse practitioners, pharmacists, physical therapists, occupational  
22 therapists, and mental health practitioners toward qualified educational  
23 debts for up to three years. The department shall make payments directly  
24 to the recipient;

25           (3) If the loan repayment recipient discontinues practice in the  
26 shortage area prior to completion of the three-year requirement, the  
27 recipient shall repay to the state one hundred fifty percent of the total

1 amount of funds provided to the recipient for loan repayment with  
2 interest at a rate of eight percent simple interest per year from the  
3 date of default. Upon repayment by the recipient to the department, the  
4 department shall reimburse the local entity its share of the funds which  
5 shall not be more than the local entity's share paid to the loan  
6 repayment recipient;~~and~~

7 (4) Any practice or payment obligation incurred by the loan  
8 repayment recipient under the loan repayment program is canceled in the  
9 event of the loan repayment recipient's total and permanent disability or  
10 death; ~~and -~~

11 (5) Beginning on July 1, 2022, any agreements entered into by  
12 December 31, 2024, shall first use federal funds from the federal  
13 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for the purposes of repaying qualified  
14 educational debts prior to using any state or local funds. Agreements  
15 using federal funds from the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021  
16 shall not require equal funding from a local entity. Any federal funds  
17 from the act committed to agreements during this time period shall be  
18 used by December 31, 2026.

19 Sec. 2. Original section 71-5668, Reissue Revised Statutes of  
20 Nebraska, is repealed.