

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.