

HB 283 -- HEALTH STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT

SPONSOR: Bland Manlove

Under current law, the Health Professional Student Loan Repayment Program includes physicians, dentists, and chiropractors. This bill expands the Program to also include the mental health professionals; psychologists, professional counselors, clinical social workers, and marital and family therapists.

The Department must designate areas of defined need for mental health services where additional services are needed to improve the patient-health professional ratio in the area.

Mental health professional students will be liable for any amounts paid on their behalf if they fail to pursue clinical experience required for licensure or fail to become licensed within one year of completing the requirements necessary for licensure.