

FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**HOUSE BILL NO. 720**  
**103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

1875H.02C

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

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**AN ACT**

To repeal sections 191.600, 191.603, 191.605, 191.607, 191.611, 191.614, and 191.615, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof seven new sections relating to the Missouri state loan repayment program.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Sections 191.600, 191.603, 191.605, 191.607, 191.611, 191.614, and  
2 191.615, RSMo, are repealed and seven new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as  
3 sections 191.600, 191.603, 191.605, 191.607, 191.611, 191.614, and 191.615, to read as  
4 follows:

191.600. 1. Sections 191.600 to 191.615 establish a loan repayment program for  
2 graduates of [~~approved medical schools, schools of osteopathic medicine, schools of dentistry~~  
3 ~~and accredited chiropractic colleges~~] **an accredited graduate training program in any**  
4 **discipline designated in rule by the department** who practice in areas of defined need [~~and~~  
5 ~~shall be known as the "Health Professional Student Loan Repayment Program"~~]. Sections  
6 191.600 to 191.615 shall apply to graduates of ~~accredited chiropractic colleges when federal~~  
7 ~~guidelines for chiropractic shortage areas are developed~~], **to be known as the "Missouri**  
8 **State Loan Repayment Program (MOSLRP)"**. **In designating disciplines, the**  
9 **department shall comply with limitations set forth in the National Health Service**  
10 **Corps Loan Repayment Program, 42 U.S.C. Section 254I-1, and any related notices of**  
11 **funding opportunity.**

12 2. The [~~"Health Professional Student Loan and~~] **"Missouri State Loan Repayment**  
13 **Program Fund"** is hereby created in the state treasury. All funds recovered from an individual  
14 pursuant to section 191.614 and all funds generated by loan repayments and penalties  
15 received pursuant to section 191.540 shall be credited to the fund. The moneys in the fund

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

16 shall be used by the department of health and senior services to provide loan repayments  
17 pursuant to section 191.611 in accordance with sections 191.600 to 191.614.

191.603. As used in sections 191.600 to 191.615, the following terms shall mean:

2 (1) "Areas of defined need", areas designated by the department pursuant to section  
3 191.605, when services ~~[of a physician, including a psychiatrist, chiropractor, or dentist]~~ are  
4 needed to improve the patient-health professional ratio in the area, to contribute health care  
5 professional services to an area of economic impact, or to contribute health care professional  
6 services to an area suffering from the effects of a natural disaster;

7 (2) ~~["Chiropractor", a person licensed and registered pursuant to chapter 331;~~

8 ~~(3)] "Department", the department of health and senior services[;~~

9 ~~(4) "General dentist", dentists licensed and registered pursuant to chapter 332  
10 engaged in general dentistry and who are providing such services to the general population;~~

11 ~~(5) "Primary care physician", physicians licensed and registered pursuant to chapter  
12 334 engaged in general or family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics or obstetrics and  
13 gynecology as their primary specialties, and who are providing such primary care services to  
14 the general population;~~

15 ~~(6) "Psychiatrist", the same meaning as in section 632.005].~~

191.605. 1. The department shall designate counties, communities, or sections of  
2 urban areas as areas of defined need for medical, psychiatric, ~~[chiropractic,]~~ or dental services  
3 when such county, community or section of an urban area has been designated as a primary  
4 care health professional shortage area, a mental health care professional shortage area, or a  
5 dental health care professional shortage area by the federal Department of Health and Human  
6 Services, or has been determined by the director of the department of health and senior  
7 services to have an extraordinary need for health care professional services, without a  
8 corresponding supply of such professionals.

9 **2. Annually, at least thirty-five percent of the appropriated funds allocated for**  
10 **the Missouri state loan repayment program shall be designated for awards to primary**  
11 **care physicians and general dentists. Any unused portion of such designated funds shall**  
12 **be made available within the same fiscal year to the other types of health professions**  
13 **designated by the department under section 191.600.**

191.607. The department shall adopt and promulgate regulations establishing  
2 standards for determining eligible persons for loan repayment pursuant to sections 191.600 to  
3 191.615. These standards shall include, but are not limited to the following:

4 (1) Citizenship or permanent residency in the United States;

5 (2) Residence in the state of Missouri;

6 (3) ~~[Enrollment as a full-time medical student in the final year of a course of study~~  
7 ~~offered by an approved educational institution or licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy~~  
8 ~~pursuant to chapter 334, including psychiatrists;~~

9 (4) ~~Enrollment as a full-time dental student in the final year of course study offered~~  
10 ~~by an approved educational institution or licensed to practice general dentistry pursuant to~~  
11 ~~chapter 332;~~

12 (5) ~~Enrollment as a full-time chiropractic student in the final year of course study~~  
13 ~~offered by an approved educational institution or licensed to practice chiropractic medicine~~  
14 ~~pursuant to chapter 331] Authorization to practice as any type of health professional~~  
15 **designated in section 191.600;**

16 ~~[(6)]~~ **(4) Practice in an area of defined need; and**

17 **(5) Submission of an** application for loan repayment.

191.611. 1. A loan payment provided for an individual under a written contract under  
2 the ~~[health professional student loan payment]~~ **Missouri state loan repayment** program shall  
3 consist of payment on behalf of the individual of the principal, interest, and related expenses  
4 on government and commercial loans received by the individual for tuition, fees, books,  
5 laboratory, and living expenses incurred by the individual.

6 2. For each year of obligated services that an individual contracts to serve in an area  
7 of defined need, the director may pay an amount not to exceed the maximum amounts  
8 allowed under the National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program, 42 U.S.C.  
9 Section ~~[2541-1, P.L. 106-213]~~ **2541-1**, on behalf of the individual for loans described in  
10 subsection 1 of this section.

11 3. The department may enter into an agreement with the holder of the loans for which  
12 repayments are made pursuant to the ~~[health professional student loan payment]~~ **Missouri**  
13 **state loan repayment** program to establish a schedule for the making of such payments if the  
14 establishment of such a schedule would result in reducing the costs to the state.

15 4. Any qualifying communities providing a portion of a loan repayment shall be  
16 considered first for placement.

191.614. 1. ~~[An individual who has entered into a written contract with the~~  
2 ~~department; and in the case of an individual who is enrolled in the final year of a course of~~  
3 ~~study and fails to maintain an acceptable level of academic standing in the educational~~  
4 ~~institution in which such individual is enrolled or voluntarily terminates such enrollment or is~~  
5 ~~dismissed from such educational institution before completion of such course of study or fails~~  
6 ~~to become licensed pursuant to chapter 331, 332 or 334 within one year shall be liable to the~~  
7 ~~state for the amount which has been paid on his or her behalf under the contract.~~

8           2-] If an individual breaches the written contract of the individual by failing either to  
9 begin such individual's service obligation or to complete such service obligation, the state  
10 shall be entitled to recover from the individual an amount equal to the sum of:

11           (1) The total of the amounts prepaid by the state on behalf of the individual;

12           (2) The interest on the amounts which would be payable if at the time the amounts  
13 were paid they were loans bearing interest at the maximum prevailing rate as determined by  
14 the Treasurer of the United States;

15           (3) An amount equal to any damages incurred by the department as a result of the  
16 breach; **and**

17           (4) Any legal fees or associated costs incurred by the department or the state of  
18 Missouri in the collection of damages.

19           ~~[3-]~~ **2.** The department may act on behalf of a qualified community to recover from an  
20 individual described in ~~[subsections 1 and 2 of]~~ this section the portion of a loan repayment  
21 paid by such community for such individual.

191.615. 1. The department shall submit a grant application to the Secretary of the  
2 United States Department of Health and Human Services as prescribed by the secretary to  
3 obtain federal funds to finance the ~~[health professional student]~~ **Missouri state** loan  
4 repayment program.

5           2. Sections 191.600 to 191.615 shall not be construed to require the department to  
6 enter into contracts with individuals who qualify for the ~~[health professional student]~~  
7 **Missouri state** loan repayment program when federal and state funds are not available for  
8 such purpose.

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