

Bill No. CS for SB 776

Amendment No.     

	<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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11	Senator Clary moved the following amendment:		
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13	<b>Senate Amendment (with title amendment)</b>		
14	On page 37, line 30, delete that line		
15			
16	and insert:		
17	Section 14. Section 240.4067, Florida Statutes, is		
18	amended to read:		
19	240.4067 Medical Education Reimbursement and Loan		
20	Repayment Program.--		
21	(1) To encourage qualified medical professionals to		
22	practice in underserved locations where there are shortages of		
23	such personnel, there is established the Medical Education		
24	Reimbursement and Loan Repayment Program. The function of the		
25	program is to make payments that offset loans and educational		
26	expenses incurred by students for studies leading to a medical		
27	or nursing degree, medical or nursing licensure, or advanced		
28	registered nurse practitioner <del>or physician's assistant</del>		
29	certification <u>or physician assistant licensure</u> . The following		
30	licensed or certified health care professionals are eligible		
31	to participate in this program: medical doctors with primary		

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1 care specialties, doctors of osteopathic medicine with primary  
2 care specialties, physician's assistants, licensed practical  
3 nurses and registered nurses, and advanced registered nurse  
4 practitioners with primary care specialties such as certified  
5 nurse midwives. Primary care medical specialties for  
6 physicians include obstetrics, gynecology, general and family  
7 practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, and other specialties  
8 which may be identified by the Department of Health ~~and~~  
9 ~~Rehabilitative Services~~.

10 (2) From the funds available, the Department of Health  
11 ~~and Rehabilitative Services~~ shall make payments to selected  
12 medical professionals as follows:

13 (a) Up to \$4,000 per year for licensed practical  
14 nurses and registered nurses, up to \$10,000 per year for  
15 advanced registered nurse practitioners and physician's  
16 assistants, and up to \$20,000 per year for physicians.  
17 Penalties for noncompliance shall be the same as those in the  
18 National Health Services Corps Loan Repayment Program.  
19 Educational expenses include costs for tuition, matriculation,  
20 registration, books, laboratory and other fees, other  
21 educational costs, and reasonable living expenses as  
22 determined by the Department of Health ~~and Rehabilitative~~  
23 ~~Services~~.

24 (b) All payments shall be contingent on continued  
25 proof of primary care practice in an area defined in s.  
26 395.602(2)(e), or an underserved area designated by the  
27 Department of Health ~~and Rehabilitative Services~~, provided the  
28 practitioner accepts Medicaid reimbursement if eligible for  
29 such reimbursement. Correctional facilities, state hospitals,  
30 and other state institutions that employ medical personnel  
31 shall be designated by the Department of Health ~~and~~

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1 ~~Rehabilitative Services~~ as underserved locations. Locations  
2 with high incidences of infant mortality, high morbidity, or  
3 low Medicaid participation by health care professionals may be  
4 designated as underserved.

5 (c) The Department of Health ~~and Rehabilitative~~  
6 ~~Services~~ may use funds appropriated for the Medical Education  
7 Reimbursement and Loan Repayment Program as matching funds for  
8 federal loan repayment programs such as the National Health  
9 Service Corps State Loan Repayment Program.

10 (3) The Department of Health ~~and Rehabilitative~~  
11 ~~Services~~ may adopt any rules necessary for the administration  
12 of the Medical Education Reimbursement and Loan Repayment  
13 Program. The department may also solicit technical advice  
14 regarding conduct of the program from the Department of  
15 Education and Florida universities and community colleges.  
16 The Department of Health ~~and Rehabilitative Services~~ shall  
17 submit a budget request for an amount sufficient to fund  
18 medical education reimbursement, loan repayments, and program  
19 administration.

20 Section 15. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
21 law.

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23

24 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

25 And the title is amended as follows:

26 On page 1, line 3, after "232.465,"

27  
28

insert:

29 240.4067,  
30  
31