

HOUSE BILL 1464

J2

(2lr3103)

ENROLLED BILL

— *Health and Government Operations/Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs* —

Introduced by **Delegate Sample–Hughes**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this _____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Physicians and Physician**
3 **Assistants – Alterations**

4 FOR the purpose of clarifying that part–time physicians and physician assistants are
5 eligible for participation in the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for
6 Physicians and Physician Assistants; authorizing the Maryland Department of
7 Health to establish prorated loan repayment assistance for part–time physicians and
8 physician assistants; establishing the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment
9 Program Advisory Council *for Physicians and Physician Assistants* to assist the
10 Department in the administration of the Program; and generally relating to the
11 Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Physicians and Physician
12 Assistants.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 Article – Health – General
 2 Section 24–1703
 3 Annotated Code of Maryland
 4 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 6 Article – Health – General
 7 Section 24–1704
 8 Annotated Code of Maryland
 9 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

10 BY adding to
 11 Article – Health – General
 12 Section 24–1708
 13 Annotated Code of Maryland
 14 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 16 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article – Health – General**

18 24–1703.

19 There is a Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Physicians and
 20 Physician Assistants in the State.

21 24–1704.

22 (a) (1) In this section[, “eligible”] **THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE**
 23 **MEANINGS INDICATED.**

24 **(2) (I) “ELIGIBLE field of employment”** means employment by an
 25 organization, institution, association, society, or corporation that is exempt from taxation
 26 under § 501(c)(3) or (4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

27 **[(2)] (II) “Eligible field of employment”** includes employment by the State
 28 or any local government in the State.

29 **(3) “PHYSICIAN” INCLUDES A PART–TIME PHYSICIAN.**

30 **(4) “PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT” INCLUDES A PART–TIME PHYSICIAN**
 31 **ASSISTANT.**

32 (b) **(1)** The Department shall assist in the repayment with the funds
 33 transferred to the Department by the Comptroller under § 14–207(d) of the Health

1 Occupations Article of the amount of education loans owed by a physician or physician
2 assistant who:

3 [(1)] (i) 1. Practices primary care in an eligible field of employment
4 in a geographic area of the State that has been federally designated; or

5 [(ii)] 2. Is a medical resident specializing in primary care who
6 agrees to practice for at least 2 years as a primary care physician in an eligible field of
7 employment in a geographic area of the State that has been federally designated; and

8 [(2)] (II) Meets any other requirements established by the Department.

9 (2) **THE DEPARTMENT MAY ESTABLISH PRORATED LOAN REPAYMENT**
10 **ASSISTANCE FOR A PART-TIME PHYSICIAN OR PART-TIME PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT**
11 **PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM.**

12 (c) Any unspent portions of the money that is transferred to the Department for
13 use under this subtitle from the Board of Physicians Fund may not be transferred to or
14 revert to the General Fund of the State, but shall remain in the Fund maintained by the
15 Department to administer the Program.

16 **24-1708.**

17 (A) **IN THIS SECTION, "COUNCIL" MEANS THE MARYLAND LOAN**
18 **ASSISTANCE REPAYMENT PROGRAM ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR PHYSICIANS AND**
19 **PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS.**

20 (B) **THERE IS A MARYLAND LOAN ASSISTANCE REPAYMENT PROGRAM**
21 **ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR PHYSICIANS AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS.**

22 (C) **THE COUNCIL CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

23 (1) **THE CHAIR OF THE HEALTH SERVICES COST REVIEW**
24 **COMMISSION, OR THE CHAIR'S DESIGNEE;**

25 (2) **THE CHAIR OF THE MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION, OR**
26 **THE CHAIR'S DESIGNEE;**

27 (3) **THE PRESIDENT OF THE MARYLAND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION, OR**
28 **THE PRESIDENT'S DESIGNEE;**

29 (4) **THE DEAN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF**
30 **MEDICINE, OR THE DEAN'S DESIGNEE;**

1 **(5) THE DEAN OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, OR**
2 **THE DEAN'S DESIGNEE;**

3 **(6) THE PRESIDENT OF MEDCHI, OR THE PRESIDENT'S DESIGNEE;**

4 **(7) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRIMARY CARE OFFICE IN THE**
5 **OFFICE OF POPULATION HEALTH IMPROVEMENT;**

6 **(8) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE BOARD OF PHYSICIANS;**

7 **(9) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND ACADEMY OF**
8 **PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS; AND**

9 **(10) ANY OTHER MEMBERS AS DETERMINED NECESSARY BY THE**
10 **SECRETARY.**

11 **(D) (1) THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL SHALL SELECT THE CHAIR OF**
12 **THE COUNCIL.**

13 **(2) A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL:**

14 **(I) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE**
15 **COUNCIL; BUT**

16 **(II) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER**
17 **THE STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE**
18 **BUDGET.**

19 **(3) THE COUNCIL SHALL MEET AT LEAST THREE TIMES A YEAR.**

20 **(E) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE COUNCIL.**

21 **(F) THE COUNCIL SHALL:**

22 **(1) SEEK PERMANENT AND DIVERSE REVENUE SOURCES TO AID IN**
23 **THE STABILITY AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROGRAM;**

24 **(2) HELP ENSURE MAXIMUM USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS;**

25 **(3) USE AVAILABLE DATA AND INFORMATION TO HELP DIRECT**
26 **FUNDING TO PRIORITY AREAS;**

27 **(4) MONITOR SIMILAR LOAN PROGRAMS IN OTHER STATES AND**
28 **ENSURE THAT THE PROGRAM REMAINS COMPETITIVE;**

1 **(5) ASSIST THE DEPARTMENT IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE**
2 **PROGRAM;**

3 **(6) HELP MARKET AND RAISE AWARENESS OF THE PROGRAM**
4 **THROUGH EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE ENTITIES AS AN**
5 **INCENTIVE TO HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS TO PRACTICE IN UNDERSERVED AREAS;**
6 **AND**

7 **(7) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE**
8 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON ANY NECESSARY CHANGES TO THE PROGRAM.**

9 **(G) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 EACH YEAR, THE COUNCIL SHALL REPORT**
10 **TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE**
11 **GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE ACTIVITIES AND**
12 **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNCIL.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
14 1, 2022.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.