

3721

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

January 28, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. PRETLOW -- read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to funding of physician loan forgiveness programs

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 9 of section 605 of the education law is
2 amended by adding a new paragraph g to read as follows:
3 G. USE OF EXCESS FUNDS FROM THE REGENTS HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL
4 OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS. ANY FUNDS APPLIED TOWARD THIS PROGRAM FROM
5 UNUSED ALLOCATIONS DIRECTED TOWARD THE REGENTS HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL
6 OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS, PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION TEN OF THIS SECTION,
7 SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGENTS RULES THAT SHALL GIVE
8 PRIORITY TO PHYSICIANS WHO ARE ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED AND/OR MEMBERS
9 OF AN UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITY GROUP. AWARDEES SHALL PROVIDE SERVICE
10 PAYBACK IN AN AREA DESIGNATED AS HAVING A SHORTAGE OF PHYSICIANS, BUT
11 NOT LIMITED TO, PRIMARY CARE SERVICES.
12 S 2. The opening paragraph of subdivision 10 of section 605 of the
13 education law, as added by chapter 31 of the laws of 1985, is amended to
14 read as follows:
15 Regents health care professional opportunity scholarships. Regents
16 health care professional opportunity scholarships shall be awarded annu-
17 ally to students who are beginning or engaged in an approved program in
18 medicine or dentistry and who are economically disadvantaged and/or
19 members of an underrepresented minority group, provided, however, that
20 to the extent that regents health care professional opportunity scholar-
21 ships are not awarded, such [scholarships shall be awarded as regents
22 professional opportunity scholarships] REMAINING FUNDING SHALL BE
23 APPLIED TO THE REGENTS PHYSICIAN LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM. These schol-
24 arships shall be classified and allocated in accordance with regents
25 rules.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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1 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately, provided that the amend-
2 ments to subdivisions 9 and 10 of section 605 of the education law, made
3 by sections one and two of this act, shall not affect the termination of
4 such subdivisions pursuant to section 17 of chapter 31 of the laws of
5 1985, as amended, and shall terminate therewith.