S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

5035

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

April 27, 2009

Introduced by Sen. HASSELL-THOMPSON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to authorizing enrollment grants to increase the participation and retention in medical education programs of New York state residents from groups historically underrepresented and making an appropriation therefor

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

Section 1. Legislative findings and purpose. The legislature hereby finds and declares that individuals from certain minority groups, primarily Blacks, Hispanics and Native Americans, have been historically underrepresented in medical education programs and, as a consequence, in the medical profession. A vast human resource remains largely untapped at a time when medical services in urban areas are inadequate and the urban poor continue to be underserved.

The medical schools of the state have not been successful in attracting the available qualified minority candidates, and in some instances have fallen below national averages and comparable states in enrollment of minorities. Medical schools have repeatedly cited the lack of adequate resources as being a major obstacle in their attempts to attract and retain larger numbers of qualified minority students.

The legislature therefore declares that a modified program of capitation assistance is needed for the purpose of expanding opportunities to underrepresented minority students to participate in medical education programs leading to licensure and a career in the medical profession.

S 2. The education law is amended by adding a new section 6402-a to read as follows:

S 6402-A. MINORITY ENROLLMENT GRANTS TO MEDICAL SCHOOLS. 1. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ANNUALLY APPORTION TO EACH NON-PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION OFFERING AN APPROVED PROGRAM IN MEDICINE AN ADDITIONAL ENROLLMENT GRANT FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

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

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FOR MINORITY STUDENTS, WHICH FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION SHALL MEAN STATE RESIDENTS WHO ARE BLACK, HISPANIC OR NATIVE AMERICAN, IN A SUM TO BE DETERMINED AS FOLLOWS:

(A) ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS SHALL BE APPORTIONED FOR EACH FULL-TIME MINORITY STUDENT ENROLLED, PROVIDED THAT NOT LESS THAN EIGHT PERCENT OF THE STUDENTS ENROLLED AT THE INSTITUTION ARE MINORITY STUDENTS. AN ADDITIONAL ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS SHALL BE APPORTIONED FOR EACH FOURTH-YEAR MINORITY STUDENT.

(B) TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS SHALL BE APPORTIONED FOR EACH FULL-TIME MINORITY STUDENT ENROLLED, PROVIDED THAT NOT LESS THAN TWELVE PERCENT OF THE STUDENTS ENROLLED AT THE INSTITUTION ARE MINORITY STUDENTS. AN ADDITIONAL TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS SHALL BE APPORTIONED FOR EACH FOURTH-YEAR MINORITY STUDENT.

(C) FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS SHALL BE APPORTIONED FOR EACH FULL-TIME STUDENT ENROLLED, PROVIDED THAT NOT LESS THAN SIXTEEN PERCENT OF THE STUDENTS ENROLLED AT THE INSTITUTION ARE MINORITY STUDENTS. AN ADDITIONAL FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS SHALL BE APPORTIONED FOR EACH FOURTH-YEAR MINORITY STUDENT.

2. INSTITUTIONS WHICH RECEIVE GRANTS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL SUBMIT TO THE COMMISSIONER SUCH REPORTS OR DOCUMENTS IN SUCH FORM AND AT SUCH TIME AS HE OR SHE MAY REQUIRE BY REGULATION IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. THE COMMISSIONER PERIODICALLY SHALL REVIEW THE INSTITUTIONS WHICH RECEIVE STATE FUNDS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INSTITUTIONS' MINORITY RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION PROGRAMS.

3. THE COMMISSIONER MAY PROMULGATE RULES AND REGULATIONS TO ACCOMPLISH THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

4. FUNDS APPROPRIATED FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE PAID IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PAYMENT SCHEDULE TO BE ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSIONER AND APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUDGET.

S 3. The sum of two hundred fifty-eight thousand dollars ($258,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the education department out of any moneys in the state treasury in the general fund to the credit of the local assistance account, not otherwise appropriated, for the payment of capitation grants to increase the participation and retention of minority students in medical education programs. Such sum shall be payable on the audit and warrant of the state comptroller on vouchers certified or approved by the commissioner of education, in the manner prescribed by law.

S 4. This act shall take effect on the first of October next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.