

Amend **HB 2154** on page 2 by striking lines 5 through 11 and substituting the following:

ACCOUNT. The physician education loan repayment program account is an account in the general revenue fund. The account is composed of:

- (1) gifts and grants contributed to the fund;
- (2) earnings on the principal of the fund; and
- (3) other amounts deposited to the credit of the fund,

including:

(A) legislative appropriations; and

(B) money deposited under Section 155.2415, Tax Code.

(b) Money in the fund may not be appropriated for any purpose except as provided by this section. Money in the funds shall be used to recruit and retain physicians in health professional shortage areas.

(c) To be eligible to receive repayment assistance, a physician must:

(1) apply to the board;

(2) be licensed in this state in the appropriate field of practice;

(3) have completed one, two, three, or four consecutive years of practice in a health professional shortage area designated by the department; and

(4) provide health care services to:

(A) recipients under the medical assistance program authorized by Chapter 32, Human Resources Code; or

(B) enrollees under the child health plan program authorized by Chapter 62, Health and Safety Code.

(d) A physician may receive repayment assistance under this subchapter in the amount determined by board rule, not to exceed the following amounts for each year for which the physician establishes eligibility for the assistance:

(1) for the first year, \$25,000;

(2) for the second year, \$35,000;

(3) for the third year, \$45,000; and

(4) for the fourth year, \$55,000.

(e) A physician may not receive repayment assistance under

this subchapter for more than four consecutive years.