

1-1 By: Madden (Senate Sponsor - Whitmire) H.B. No. 1908
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 14, 2011;
1-3 April 26, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Criminal Justice; May 12, 2011, reported favorably by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 12, 2011, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to student loan repayment assistance for certain providers
1-9 of correctional health care.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 61.532, Education Code, is amended to
1-12 read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 61.532. ELIGIBILITY. [~~a~~] To be eligible to receive
1-14 repayment assistance, a physician must:

1-15 (1) apply to the coordinating board;

1-16 (2) at the time of application, be licensed to
1-17 practice medicine under Subtitle B, Title 3, Occupations Code;

1-18 (3) have completed one, two, three, or four
1-19 consecutive years of practice in a health professional shortage
1-20 area designated by the Department of State Health Services; and

1-21 (4) provide health care services to:

1-22 (A) recipients under the medical assistance
1-23 program authorized by Chapter 32, Human Resources Code; [~~or~~]

1-24 (B) enrollees under the child health plan program
1-25 authorized by Chapter 62, Health and Safety Code; or

1-26 (C) persons committed to a secure correctional
1-27 facility operated by or under contract with the Texas Youth
1-28 Commission or persons confined in a secure correctional facility
1-29 operated by or under contract with any division of the Texas
1-30 Department of Criminal Justice.

1-31 SECTION 2. Section 61.533, Education Code, is amended to
1-32 read as follows:

1-33 Sec. 61.533. LIMITATION. (a) A physician may receive
1-34 repayment assistance grants for not more than four years.

1-35 (b) Repayment assistance grants paid in relation to
1-36 services described by Section 61.532(4)(C) are limited to the first
1-37 10 physicians who establish eligibility for those grants each year.

1-38 SECTION 3. Subchapter E, Chapter 501, Government Code, is
1-39 amended by adding Section 501.156 to read as follows:

1-40 Sec. 501.156. STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE. (a) From
1-41 funds appropriated for purposes of correctional managed health
1-42 care, the committee may provide student loan repayment assistance
1-43 for medical and mental health care physicians and other staff
1-44 providing correctional managed health care. The repayment
1-45 assistance may be applied to any student loan received through any
1-46 lender for education at a public or accredited private institution
1-47 of higher education in the United States, including loans for
1-48 undergraduate, graduate, and medical education.

1-49 (b) The committee may adopt rules to implement this section,
1-50 including rules governing eligibility for the loan repayment
1-51 assistance and the terms of contracts between the committee and
1-52 recipients of the loan repayment assistance. In adopting those
1-53 rules, the committee shall consider the requirements of Subchapter
1-54 J, Chapter 61, Education Code, and the rules of the Texas Higher
1-55 Education Coordinating Board adopted under that subchapter.

1-56 (c) A physician may not receive loan repayment assistance
1-57 under both this section and Subchapter J, Chapter 61, Education
1-58 Code.

1-59 (d) Not later than December 1 of each state fiscal year, the
1-60 committee shall submit a report to the Legislative Budget Board and
1-61 the governor on the use of funds under this section for the
1-62 preceding fiscal year.

1-63 SECTION 4. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
1-64 shall:

2-1 (1) not later than December 1, 2011, adopt any rules
2-2 necessary under Sections 61.532 and 61.533, Education Code, as
2-3 amended by this Act; and

2-4 (2) not later than January 1, 2012, begin providing as
2-5 permitted by those sections student loan repayment assistance to
2-6 providers of health care in secure correctional facilities.

2-7 SECTION 5. The Correctional Managed Health Care Committee
2-8 shall:

2-9 (1) not later than December 1, 2011, adopt the rules
2-10 for the provision of student loan repayment assistance under
2-11 Section 501.156, Government Code, as added by this Act; and

2-12 (2) not later than January 1, 2012, begin providing
2-13 student loan repayment assistance under that section.

2-14 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-15 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-16 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-17 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-18 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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