H.B. No. 2261

AN ACT

relating to the physician education loan repayment program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Sections 61.538(a) and (c), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a)  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, $30,000 [~~$25,000~~];

(2)  for the second year, $40,000 [~~$35,000~~];

(3)  for the third year, $50,000 [~~$45,000~~]; and

(4)  for the fourth year, $60,000 [~~$55,000~~].

(c)  The total amount of repayment assistance made under this subchapter to an individual physician may not exceed $180,000 [~~$160,000~~].

SECTION 2.  The change in law made by this Act to Section 61.538, Education Code, applies only to a person who first establishes eligibility for loan repayment assistance under Subchapter J, Chapter 61, Education Code, as amended by this Act, on the basis of an application submitted on or after September 1, 2019. A person who first establishes eligibility on the basis of an application submitted before September 1, 2019, is governed by the law in effect on the date the application was submitted, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3.  The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is required to implement a provision of this Act only if the legislature appropriates money specifically for that purpose. If the legislature does not appropriate money specifically for that purpose, the coordinating board may, but is not required to, implement a provision of this Act using other appropriations available for that purpose.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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    President of the Senate Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2261 was passed by the House on April 9, 2019, by the following vote:  Yeas 130, Nays 17, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 2261 on May 23, 2019, by the following vote:  Yeas 130, Nays 11, 1 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2261 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 20, 2019, by the following vote:  Yeas 26, Nays 5.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                 Date

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               Governor