

By: Howard

H.B. No. 1559

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the Nursing Faculty Loan Repayment Assistance Program.

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

SECTION 1. Section 61.9822, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 61.9822. ELIGIBILITY. To be eligible to receive loan repayment assistance under this subchapter, a nurse must:

(1) apply to the board;

(2) at the time of application for repayment assistance have been employed part-time or full-time for at least one year as, and be currently employed part-time or full-time as, a faculty member of a nursing degree program at an institution of higher education or a private or independent institution of higher education; and

(3) comply with any additional requirements adopted by board rule.

SECTION 2. Sections 61.9823(a) and (b), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) On qualifying for loan repayment assistance under this subchapter, a nurse may receive repayment assistance for each year of part-time or full-time employment as a faculty member of a nursing degree program at an institution of higher education or private or independent institution of higher education, not to exceed five years.

1 (b) The board by rule shall determine the maximum amount of
2 loan repayment assistance received by a nurse under this subchapter
3 [~~may not exceed \$7,000~~] in any one year. The board shall base the
4 amount of loan repayment assistance received by a nurse for
5 part-time employment on the proportion of the number of hours
6 worked by the nurse to the number of hours worked by a full-time
7 nurse.

8 SECTION 3. (a) As soon as practicable after the effective
9 date of this Act, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
10 shall adopt rules necessary to administer the changes in law made by
11 this Act.

12 (b) The changes in law made by this Act apply beginning with
13 loan repayment assistance awarded under Subchapter JJ, Chapter 61,
14 Education Code, for the 2022-2023 academic year. Loan repayment
15 assistance awarded under Subchapter JJ, Chapter 61, Education Code,
16 for an academic year before the 2022-2023 academic year is governed
17 by the law in effect immediately before the effective date of this
18 Act, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

19 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.