

Introduced by Senator OropezaFebruary 22, 2007

An act to add Section 4410 to the Business and Professions Code, and to add Article 3 (commencing with Section 128199) to Chapter 3 of Part 3 of Division 107 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to pharmacy technicians.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 615, as introduced, Oropeza. Pharmacy technicians: scholarship and loan repayment program.

(1) Existing law provides for the licensure and regulation of pharmacy technicians by the California State Board of Pharmacy. Existing law authorizes the imposition of a biennial license renewal fee upon pharmacy technicians.

This bill would authorize a pharmacy technician to make a \$10 contribution at the time of renewing a license, to be deposited in the California Pharmacy Technician Scholarship and Loan Repayment Program Fund.

(2) Existing law establishes in the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development the California Pharmacist Scholarship and Loan Repayment Program to provide scholarships to pay for the educational expenses of pharmacy students and to repay qualifying educational loans of pharmacists who agree to serve in areas of the state where unmet priority needs exist, as specified. Existing law requires the office to administer the program utilizing the same general guidelines applicable to specified federal programs, with the exception that no matching funds shall be required from any entity in the practice site area.

This bill would establish the California Pharmacy Technician Scholarship and Loan Repayment Program to provide scholarships to pay for the educational expenses of pharmacy technician students and to repay qualifying educational loans of pharmacy technicians who agree to serve in areas of the state where unmet priority needs exist, as specified. The bill would require the office to administer this program in the same manner as the program for pharmacists, including that no matching funds shall be required from any entity in the practice site area.

(3) Existing law establishes the California Pharmacist Scholarship and Loan Repayment Program Fund in the State Treasury, and requires that the moneys in the fund be available for expenditure, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for purposes of implementing the program. Existing law provides that the program shall be implemented only to the extent that sufficient moneys are available in the fund.

This bill would establish the California Pharmacy Technician Scholarship and Loan Repayment Program Fund, under the same terms and conditions, for purposes of implementing the program established by the bill.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 4410 is added to the Business and
2 Professions Code, to read:
3 4410. At the time a pharmacy technician license is renewed
4 pursuant to subdivision (r) of Section 4400, the pharmacy
5 technician may make a contribution of ten dollars (\$10), to be
6 submitted to the board, for the sole purpose of funding the
7 California Pharmacy Technician Scholarship and Loan Repayment
8 Program established pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with
9 Section 128199) of Chapter 3 of Part 3 of Division 107 of the
10 Health and Safety Code. The contribution submitted pursuant to
11 this section shall be paid into the State Treasury and credited to
12 the California Pharmacy Technician Scholarship and Loan
13 Repayment Program Fund established pursuant to Section 128199.5
14 of the Health and Safety Code.

1 SEC. 2. Article 3 (commencing with Section 128199) is added
2 to Chapter 3 of Part 3 of Division 107 of the Health and Safety
3 Code, to read:

4
5 Article 3. California Pharmacy Technician Scholarship and
6 Loan Repayment Program
7

8 128199. (a) (1) There is hereby established in the Office of
9 Statewide Health Planning and Development the California
10 Pharmacy Technician Scholarship and Loan Repayment Program.

11 (2) The program shall provide scholarships to pay for the
12 educational expenses of pharmacy technician school students and
13 to repay qualifying educational loans of pharmacy technicians who
14 agree to participate in designated medically underserved areas as
15 provided in this section.

16 (b) The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development
17 shall administer the California Pharmacy Technician Scholarship
18 and Loan Repayment Program utilizing the same general guidelines
19 applicable to the federal National Health Service Corps Scholarship
20 Program established pursuant to Section 254 *l* of Title 42 of the
21 United States Code and the National Health Service Corps Loan
22 Repayment Program established pursuant to Section 254 *l*-1 of
23 Title 42 of the United States Code, except as follows:

24 (1) A pharmacy technician or pharmacy technician student shall
25 be eligible to participate in the program if he or she agrees to
26 provide pharmacy technician services in a practice site located in
27 areas of the state where unmet priority needs for primary care
28 family physicians exist as determined by the Health Workforce
29 Policy Commission.

30 (2) No matching funds shall be required from any entity in the
31 practice site area.

32 (c) This section shall be implemented only to the extent that
33 sufficient moneys are available in the California Pharmacy
34 Technician Scholarship and Loan Repayment Program Fund to
35 administer the program.

36 128199.5. The California Pharmacy Technician Scholarship
37 and Loan Repayment Program Fund is hereby established in the
38 State Treasury. Revenues from the contributions made pursuant
39 to Section 4410 of the Business and Professions Code, as well as
40 any other private or public funds made available for purposes of

1 the California Pharmacy Technician Scholarship and Loan
2 Repayment Program, shall be deposited into the fund. Upon
3 appropriation by the Legislature, moneys in the fund shall be
4 available for expenditure by the Office of Statewide Health
5 Planning and Development for purposes of implementing the
6 California Pharmacy Technician Scholarship and Loan Repayment
7 Program pursuant to this article. The Office of Statewide Health
8 Planning and Development shall be under no obligation to
9 administer a program under this article until sufficient moneys
10 have been accumulated in the fund and appropriated to the office
11 by the Legislature.

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