

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 16, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2048

Introduced by Assembly Member Gray

February 17, 2016

An act to amend Section 127940 ~~of of~~, and to add Section 127945 to, the Health and Safety Code, relating to health professions ~~development~~: *development, and making an appropriation therefor.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2048, as amended, Gray. National Health Service Corps State Loan Repayment Program.

Existing law provides that in administering the National Health Service Corps State Loan Repayment Program in accordance with federal law and regulations, the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development is required to strive, whenever feasible, to equitably distribute loan repayment awards between eligible urban and rural program sites, after taking into account the availability of health care services in the communities to be served and the number of individuals to be served in each program site.

This bill would ~~make technical, nonsubstantive changes to that provision~~: *require the office to include all federally qualified health centers located in California in the program's certified eligible site list. The bill would require the office to notify all certified eligible sites when the program opens each application cycle and to strive, to the extent possible, to maximize the number of applications received each cycle. The bill would require the office to submit an annual report, as specified, to the Senate and Assembly Committees on Health that includes, among other things, the number of applications received during the annual*

application cycle and the percentage of applicants who were awarded funding.

This bill would continuously appropriate \$1,000,000 from the General Fund each fiscal year to the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development for the purpose of providing state matching funds to the National Health Service Corps State Loan Repayment Program. The bill would prohibit the office from requiring program applicants or participants to provide matching funds in years that the office receives these matching funds.

Vote: ~~majority~~^{2/3}. Appropriation: ~~no~~-yes. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes. State-mandated local program: no.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 127940 of the Health and Safety Code
- 2 is amended to read:
- 3 127940. (a) In administering the National Health Service Corps
- 4 State Loan Repayment Program in accordance with Section 254q-1
- 5 of Title 42 of the United States Code and related federal
- 6 regulations, the Office of Statewide Health Planning and
- 7 Development shall strive, whenever feasible, to equitably distribute
- 8 loan repayment awards between eligible urban and rural program
- 9 sites, after taking into account the availability of health care
- 10 services in the communities to be served and the number of
- 11 individuals to be served in each program site.
- 12 (b) The office shall set a reasonable deadline for when all
- 13 applications are required to be received.
- 14 (c) All eligible applications shall be given consideration before
- 15 any award is granted.
- 16 (d) *The office shall include all federally qualified health centers*
- 17 *located in California in the program’s certified eligible site list.*
- 18 (e) *The office shall notify all certified eligible sites when the*
- 19 *program opens each application cycle and shall strive, to the extent*
- 20 *possible, to maximize the number of applications received each*
- 21 *cycle.*
- 22 (f) *The office shall not require program applicants and*
- 23 *participants to provide matching funds in years that the office*
- 24 *receives state matching funds pursuant to Section 127945.*

1 (g) The office shall submit an annual report to the Senate and
2 Assembly Committees on Health that includes all of the following
3 information:

4 (1) The number of applications received during the annual
5 application cycle.

6 (2) The percentage of applicants who were awarded funding
7 under the program.

8 (3) The percentage of applicants who were not awarded funding
9 under the program.

10 (4) The percentage of funding that went to each geographic
11 region in the state.

12 (h) (1) The requirement for submitting a report pursuant to
13 subdivision (g) is inoperative on January 1, 2021, pursuant to
14 Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.

15 (2) A report submitted pursuant to subdivision (g) shall be
16 submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government
17 Code.

18 SEC. 2. Section 127945 is added to the Health and Safety Code,
19 to read:

20 127945. Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government
21 Code, the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) is hereby
22 continuously appropriated, from the General Fund in the State
23 Treasury, without regard to fiscal year, to the Office of Statewide
24 Health Planning and Development for purposes of providing state
25 matching funds for the National Health Service Corps State Loan
26 Repayment Program pursuant to Section 127940.

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