

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE BILL

No. 57

Session of  
2003

INTRODUCED BY THOMAS, YOUNGBLOOD, TIGUE, JAMES, KELLER, BEBKO-  
JONES, BELARDI, BELFANTI, CORRIGAN, HARHAI, LaGROTTA,  
LAUGHLIN, LEDERER, MELIO, SOLOBAY AND STABACK,  
JANUARY 29, 2003

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH, JANUARY 29, 2003

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 2, 1992 (P.L.741, No.113), entitled  
2 "An act providing a comprehensive plan for health care for  
3 uninsured children; providing for medical education  
4 assistance; making appropriations; and making repeals,"  
5 further providing for loan forgiveness for primary health  
6 care practitioners.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Section 1303(d) and (e) of the act of December 2,  
10 1992 (P.L.741, No.113), known as the Children's Health Care Act,  
11 are amended to read:

12 Section 1303. Loan forgiveness for primary health care  
13 practitioners.

14 \* \* \*

15 (d) Eligibility.--Consideration for loan repayment  
16 assistance shall be as follows:

17 (1) The applicant must be one of the following:

18 (i) An individual who:

19 (A) has a medical degree from an accredited

1 medical school or osteopathic medical college;

2 (B) has completed an approved graduate training  
3 program in primary care medicine;

4 (C) is licensed to practice medicine in this  
5 Commonwealth; and

6 (D) is board eligible in a primary care  
7 specialty.

8 (ii) An individual who is licensed to practice  
9 general dentistry in this Commonwealth.

10 (iii) An individual who holds a nursing degree from  
11 an accredited nursing program and has completed a  
12 training program for nurse practitioners or nurse  
13 midwives.

14 (iv) An individual who has graduated from an  
15 accredited program for physician assistants.

16 (v) An individual who is licensed to practice  
17 podiatry in this Commonwealth.

18 (vi) An individual who is licensed to practice  
19 optometry in this Commonwealth.

20 (2) An applicant who is qualified under paragraph (1)  
21 must agree to serve in a designated medically underserved  
22 area of this Commonwealth as a primary health care  
23 practitioner for not less than three years.

24 (e) Benefits.--

25 (1) A physician [or], dentist or podiatrist who is  
26 eligible under subsection (d) shall be eligible to receive up  
27 to \$64,000 in loan exonerations based on the following  
28 schedule:

29 (i) Year one, 15%.

30 (ii) Year two, 20%.

1           (iii) Year three, 30%.

2           (iv) Year four, 35%.

3           (2) A nurse practitioner, physician assistant or nurse  
4 midwife who is eligible under subsection (d) shall be  
5 eligible to receive up to \$40,000 in loan exonerations based  
6 on the following repayment schedule:

7           (i) Year one, 15%.

8           (ii) Year two, 20%.

9           (iii) Year three, 30%.

10          (iv) Year four, 35%.

11          \* \* \*

12          Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.