

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 546

Session of 1975

INTRODUCED BY MESSRS. SHANE, HAMMOCK, MRS. KELLY, MESSRS. DiCARLO, BELLOMINI, IRVIS, VANN, GALLAGHER, SHUPNIK, LINCOLN, COHEN, O'DONNELL, RHODES, COWELL, PANCOAST, DeMEDIO, WAGNER, M. E. MILLER, JR., LAUGHLIN, GEORGE, BERLIN, MISCEVICH, MILANOVICH, REED, LINCOLN, ZORD, MISS SIRIANNI, MRS. TOLL, MESSRS. PARKER, LETTERMAN, DREIBELBIS, DOYLE, MORRIS, VALICENTI, HOPKINS, HASKELL, MUSTO, WARGO, WANSACZ, FLAHERTY, TRELLO, GEISLER, MRS. GILLETTE, MR. WALSH, MRS. KERNICK, MESSRS. NOYE, R. W. WILT, ZWIKL, GOODMAN, MRKONIC, PETRARCA, KOLTER, A. K. HUTCHINSON, SALOOM, BRUNNER, YAHNER, STOUT, GREEN, BRADLEY, McLANE, OLIVER, RUGGIERO, BARBER, DiDONATO, KNEPPER, CESSAR, FEE, FISCHER, FISHER, USTYNOSKI, GRIECO, TAYLOR, GARZIA, POLITE, SCHMITT, LAUDADIO, AND PRATT, FEBRUARY 19, 1975

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, July 16, 1975

AN ACT

1 Creating the Pennsylvania ~~Medical~~ PHYSICIAN Education Council; <—  
2 establishing the powers and duties of such council; creating  
3 Regional Advisory Boards to such council; regulating certain  
4 appropriations to medical schools and schools of osteopathy;  
5 and making an appropriation.

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

8 Section 1. Short Title.--This act shall be known and may be  
9 cited as the "Pennsylvania ~~Medical~~ PHYSICIAN Education Planning <—  
10 Act."

11 Section 2. Legislative Findings.--The Commonwealth of  
12 Pennsylvania is fortunate in the number and quality of medical  
13 schools located therein. However, there is no integrated system

1 of ~~medical~~ education FOR PHYSICIANS covering the entire State <—  
2 which assures an appropriate distribution of physicians  
3 throughout the Commonwealth. The lack of such an integrated  
4 system results in a loss to both the medical schools and the  
5 community at large. The medical schools are unable to take  
6 advantage of the various medical facilities and the talents of  
7 individuals located throughout the Commonwealth. Many parts of  
8 the community at large are without sufficient health care while  
9 those parts which do have health care cannot take advantage of  
10 the advanced knowledge available at the medical schools. It is  
11 essential that an integrated Statewide ~~medical~~ education plan <—  
12 FOR PHYSICIANS be developed for the benefit of both the medical <—  
13 schools and the community at large.

14 Section 3. Pennsylvania ~~Medical~~ PHYSICIAN Education <—  
15 Council.--There is hereby created an independent council to be  
16 known as the Pennsylvania ~~Medical~~ PHYSICIAN Education Council <—  
17 which shall consist of the following persons: the Secretary of  
18 Health and the Secretary of Education, or their respective  
19 designees; the chief executive officers, or their designees, of  
20 the colleges or universities in Pennsylvania of which each  
21 accredited medical school or school of osteopathy is a part; two  
22 physicians licensed to practice in Pennsylvania who are  
23 professionally qualified in a field of primary care appointed by  
24 the Governor; one representative from a Pennsylvania teaching  
25 hospital appointed by the Governor from a list of at least three  
26 names submitted by the Council of Teaching Hospitals; two  
27 members of the House of Representatives, one from each political  
28 party, selected by the Speaker of the House; and two members of  
29 the Senate, one from each political party selected by the  
30 President pro tempore of the Senate. The council shall select a

1 chairman from among its members. Members shall receive no  
2 compensation, but shall be reimbursed for actual expenses  
3 incurred. The Secretary of Health shall provide the necessary  
4 administrative personnel and services. A quorum shall consist of  
5 a majority of the total membership of the council and a majority  
6 vote of those present shall be sufficient in the resolution of  
7 any matter.

8 Section 4. Powers and Duties of the Council.--The council  
9 shall have the following powers and duties:

10 (1) Develop an integrated Statewide ~~medical~~ education plan <—  
11 FOR PHYSICIANS which shall include the establishment of <—  
12 residency programs in community hospitals by the medical schools  
13 with the cooperation of the medical profession, hospitals, and  
14 clinics throughout the Commonwealth.

15 (2) Divide the Commonwealth into regions and determine which  
16 medical schools will operate in each region relative to the  
17 implementation of such integrated Statewide ~~medical~~ plan. <—

18 (3) Give priority in the development of such an integrated  
19 plan to those areas of the Commonwealth which have been  
20 designated as medically deprived by the Secretary of Health.

21 (4) Cooperate with any agency or political subdivision of  
22 the Commonwealth or any other public or private agency in the  
23 development of such an integrated plan including the right to  
24 enter into contracts with such agencies and to receive monetary  
25 aid or grants.

26 (5) Cooperate with the office of the Governor or any  
27 designated agency in the establishment of a Statewide  
28 communication system which will enable the medical profession,  
29 hospitals, and clinics throughout the Commonwealth to have a  
30 direct tie line and instantaneous communication with computer

1 banks and specialists at the medical schools and medical  
2 centers.

3 (6) Contract with such consultants as may be deemed  
4 necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

5 Section 5. Regional Advisory Boards.--In each region  
6 established by the council pursuant to clause (2) of section 4  
7 of this act, there is hereby created a Regional Advisory Board  
8 to the Pennsylvania ~~Medical~~ PHYSICIAN Education Council. Each ←  
9 such board shall consist of seven persons appointed by the  
10 Governor: Four of whom shall be involved with the delivery of  
11 health care; and three of whom shall not be involved with the  
12 delivery of health care and shall be consumer representatives.  
13 Members of the board shall serve for a four year term except  
14 those first appointed in which case; three shall be appointed  
15 for a three year term; and four shall be appointed for a four  
16 year term. Vacancies shall be made in the manner of the original  
17 appointments for the remainder of the unexpired term. The  
18 members of the board shall also represent a geographical balance  
19 of the region. Members of each board shall select a chairman  
20 from among its members and a majority of the members shall  
21 constitute a quorum. A majority vote of those present shall be  
22 sufficient in the resolution of any matter. The advisory boards  
23 shall meet at least twice during each year. Members shall  
24 receive no compensation but shall be reimbursed for actual  
25 expenses incurred.

26 The function of each board shall be to act in an advisory  
27 capacity to the council relative to the unique problems existing  
28 in the board's region to enable the council to have the best  
29 available information in the performance of the council's  
30 duties.

1 Section 6. Regulation of Certain Appropriations to Medical  
2 Schools and Schools of Osteopathy.--Whenever any Commonwealth  
3 appropriation is made to any medical school or school of  
4 osteopathy on a student per capita basis, such appropriation  
5 shall be expended in the following manner unless otherwise  
6 specifically designated in the act making such appropriation:

7 (1) Eighty per cent of such appropriation may be used at the  
8 discretion of the medical school or school of osteopathy;

9 (2) Twenty per cent of the first such appropriation made  
10 after the effective date of this act shall be used by the  
11 medical school or school of osteopathy to create a fund from  
12 which loans are made to students. For each year thereafter, such  
13 percentage of an appropriation shall first be used in an amount  
14 which shall maintain such loan fund at an amount equal to twenty  
15 per cent of the total appropriation for that year. Any amount  
16 remaining after such maintenance of the loan fund may be used at  
17 the discretion of the medical school or school of osteopathy.  
18 This loan program shall be administered either by the medical  
19 school or school of osteopathy, or in the alternative, the  
20 medical school or school of osteopathy shall have the power to  
21 enter into an agreement with the Pennsylvania Higher Education  
22 Assistance Agency for the purpose of the administration of such  
23 loan program. Such agreement may provide for the payment of  
24 costs of administration to such agency from the loan fund. The  
25 Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency is hereby  
26 authorized to enter into such agreements and to administer such  
27 loan programs in accordance with the terms of such agreements  
28 and the provisions of this act. Such loan program shall provide  
29 that for each year a graduate practices in any area of the  
30 Commonwealth designated as medically deprived by the Secretary

1 of Health twenty per cent of the total of such loan shall be  
2 forgiven.

3 Section 7. Appropriation.--The sum of \$350,000, or as much  
4 thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the  
5 Pennsylvania ~~Medical~~ PHYSICIAN Education Council for the ←  
6 purposes of this act. Every year thereafter, the General  
7 Assembly shall appropriate that amount of funds as it deems  
8 necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

9 Section 8. Effective Date.--This act shall take effect  
10 immediately, EXCEPT SECTION 6, PARAGRAPH (2), SHALL TAKE EFFECT ←  
11 SEPTEMBER 1, 1976.