



Rep. Lou Lang

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10000HB5109ham002

LRB100 19021 AXK 37804 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 5109

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 5109 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Community Behavioral Health Care Professional Loan Repayment
6 Program Act.

7 Section 5. Purpose. The purpose of the Community Behavioral
8 Health Care Professional Loan Repayment Program is to recruit
9 and retain qualified mental health and substance use
10 professionals to practice in underserved or rural areas and to
11 address this State's community-based behavioral health care
12 workforce shortage that causes disparities in access to
13 critical mental health and substance use services.

14 Section 10. Definitions. In this Act:

15 "Commission" means the Illinois Student Assistance

1 Commission.

2 "Physician" means a person licensed by this State to
3 practice medicine in all its branches and includes any person
4 holding a temporary license, as provided in the Medical
5 Practice Act of 1987.

6 "Program" means the Community Behavioral Health Care
7 Professional Loan Repayment Program.

8 "Psychiatrist" or "licensed psychiatrist" means a
9 physician who has successfully completed a residency program in
10 psychiatry accredited by either the Accreditation Council for
11 Graduate Medical Education or the American Osteopathic
12 Association.

13 Section 15. Establishment of Program. Beginning on July 1,
14 2019, there is created the Community Behavioral Health Care
15 Professional Loan Repayment Program, which shall be
16 administered by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission.
17 The Program shall provide loan repayment assistance, subject to
18 appropriation, to eligible mental health and substance use
19 professionals practicing in a community mental health center in
20 an underserved or rural federally designated Mental Health
21 Professional Shortage Area.

22 Section 20. Applications. Each year, the Commission shall
23 receive and consider applications for loan repayment
24 assistance under this Act. All applications must be submitted

1 to the Commission in a form and manner prescribed by the
2 Commission. Applicants must submit any supporting documents
3 deemed necessary by the Commission at the time of application.

4 Section 25. Award; maximum loan time; maximum amount.
5 Subject to appropriation, the Commission shall award a grant to
6 each qualified applicant for a maximum of 4 years. The
7 Commission must encourage the recipient of a grant awarded
8 under this Act to use the grant award for payments towards the
9 recipient's educational loans. The amount of the grant shall
10 not exceed (i) \$35,000 per year for a psychiatrist, (ii)
11 \$15,000 per year for an advanced practice registered nurse or a
12 physician assistant, (iii) \$12,000 per year for a psychologist
13 who holds a doctoral degree, (iv) \$6,500 per year for a
14 licensed clinical social worker or a licensed clinical
15 professional counselor, and (v) \$2,500 per year for a substance
16 use professional.

17 Section 30. Eligibility; work requirement.

18 (a) To be eligible for assistance under the Community
19 Behavioral Health Care Professional Loan Repayment Program,
20 the Commission must find that the applicant satisfies all of
21 the following:

22 (1) He or she is a United States citizen or an eligible
23 noncitizen.

24 (2) He or she is a resident of this State.

1 (3) He or she has worked for at least 12 consecutive
2 months as a behavioral health professional in a community
3 mental health center in an underserved or rural federally
4 designated Mental Health Professional Shortage Area in
5 this State.

6 (4) He or she is a borrower with an outstanding balance
7 due on an educational loan.

8 (5) He or she has not defaulted on an educational loan.

9 (b) The Commission may grant preference to a previous
10 recipient of a grant under the Program, provided that the
11 recipient continues to meet the eligibility requirements under
12 this Section.

13 (c) A recipient of a grant under the Program must complete
14 a separate 12-month period working in a community mental health
15 center in an underserved or rural federally designated Mental
16 Health Professional Shortage Area in this State for each grant
17 that he or she is awarded.

18 Section 35. Administration; rules. The Commission shall
19 administer the Program and shall adopt rules not inconsistent
20 with this Act for the Program's effective implementation."