

HB3457



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB3457

Introduced 2/17/2023, by Rep. David Friess

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Underserved Dental Provider Workforce Act. Authorizes the Department of Public Health to establish programs for the repayment of the educational loans of dentists who agree to serve in designated shortage areas for at least 2 years. Authorizes the Department to adopt rules, enter into contracts and agreements, and receive and disburse federal funds as necessary to achieve the purposes of the Act. Effective July 1, 2024.

LRB103 28578 RJT 54959 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Underserved Dental Provider Workforce Act.

6 Section 5. Purposes. The purpose of this Act is to
7 establish programs in the Illinois Department of Public Health
8 to upgrade dental care services for all citizens of the State
9 and to increase access and to reduce dental care disparities
10 by providing a loan repayment program for eligible dentists
11 who will agree to practice in areas of the State demonstrating
12 the greatest need for more professional dental care. The
13 programs shall encourage eligible dentists to locate in areas
14 where health dental care shortages exist and to increase the
15 total number of eligible dentists in the State.

16 Section 10. Definitions. In this Act:

17 "Department" means the Department of Public Health.

18 "Director" means the Director of Public Health.

19 "Dentist" means a dentist licensed under the Illinois
20 Dental Practice Act.

21 "Designated shortage area" means an area designated by the
22 Director as a dental shortage area.

1 "Eligible dentist" means a dentist who resides and
2 provides dental services in a designated shortage area.

3 Section 15. Powers of the Department. The Department may
4 exercise the powers indicated in Sections 15.05 through 15.20
5 of this Act.

6 Section 15.05. Federal funds. To receive and disburse
7 federal funds in accordance with the purpose stated in Section
8 2 of this Act.

9 Section 15.10. Contracts and agreements. To enter into
10 contracts or agreements with any agency or department of the
11 State of Illinois or the United States to carry out the
12 provisions of this Act.

13 Section 15.15. Repayment of educational loans for eligible
14 dentists. To establish programs, and the criteria for such
15 programs, for the repayment of the educational loans of
16 eligible dentists who agree to serve in designated shortage
17 areas for a period of not less than 2 years. Payments under
18 this program may be made for the principal, interest, and
19 related expenses of government and commercial loans received
20 by the individual for tuition expenses, and all other
21 reasonable educational expenses incurred by the individual.
22 Payments made under this provision shall be exempt from

1 Illinois State Income Tax. The Department may use tobacco
2 settlement recovery funding or other available funding to
3 implement this Section.

4 Section 15.20. Rulemaking. To adopt rules that are
5 necessary for the establishment and maintenance of the
6 programs required by this Act.

7 Section 20. Administrative Procedure Act. The Illinois
8 Administrative Procedure Act is hereby expressly adopted and
9 incorporated herein as if all of the provisions of such Act
10 were included in this Act.

11 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
12 2024.