



Rep. Lakesia Collins

Filed: 3/20/2023

10300HB3571ham002

LRB103 29393 RJT 59380 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 3571

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 3571 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 Hospice and Palliative Care Professional Loan
6 Repayment Program Act.

7 Section 5. Purpose; findings.

8 (a) The purpose of this Act is to help licensed hospice
9 programs recruit and retain qualified professionals and
10 address this State's community-based hospice and palliative
11 care workforce shortage. The goal of the program is to reduce
12 disparities in access to critical health services for people
13 who have serious illnesses or who are nearing the end of life.

14 (b) The General Assembly finds:

15 (1) Racial minorities are underrepresented as hospice
16 and palliative care and interdisciplinary healthcare

1 providers in the State.

2 (2) It is in the interest of the State to provide
3 racial minorities priority in consideration for programs
4 that encourage racial minority participation in hospice
5 and palliative care and interdisciplinary healthcare
6 providers.

7 (3) A workforce that is more reflective of the
8 seriously ill population in a minority community can
9 improve the use of hospice and palliative care services,
10 which will address inequities in health outcomes for this
11 population.

12 (4) It is necessary to give priority to applicants of
13 racial minorities because of these findings.

14 Section 10. Definitions. In this Act:

15 "Commission" means the Illinois Student Assistance
16 Commission.

17 "Hospice and palliative care professional" means a person
18 who is employed by a hospice program and is a physician,
19 licensed advanced practice registered nurse, licensed
20 registered nurse, licensed social worker, licensed clinical
21 social worker, or licensed practical nurse.

22 "Hospice program" means a public agency or private
23 organization, or subdivision of either, that is licensed by
24 the State as a comprehensive hospice program as defined in the
25 Hospice Program Licensing Act and is also Medicare-certified.

1 "Loan Repayment Program" means the Community Hospice and
2 Palliative Care Professional Loan Repayment Program
3 established under this Act.

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

8 Section 15. Community Hospice and Palliative Care
9 Professional Loan Repayment Program. The Commission shall
10 establish between July 1, 2024 and January 1, 2025 the
11 Community Hospice and Palliative Care Professional Loan
12 Repayment Program, which shall be administered by the
13 Commission. The program shall provide loan repayment
14 assistance, subject to appropriation, to eligible hospice and
15 palliative professionals practicing in a hospice program that
16 provides services in the State.

17 Section 20. Applications. Each year, the Commission shall
18 receive and consider applications for loan repayment
19 assistance under this Act. All applications must be submitted
20 to the Commission in a form and manner prescribed by the
21 Commission. Applicants must submit any supporting documents
22 deemed necessary by the Commission at the time of application.

23 Section 25. Award; maximum loan time; maximum amount.

1 Subject to appropriation, the Commission shall award a grant
2 to each qualified applicant for a maximum of 4 years. The
3 Commission shall encourage the recipient of a grant awarded
4 under this Act to use the grant award for payments towards the
5 recipient's educational loans. The yearly appropriation for
6 the program shall be divided as follows: (i) 10% toward awards
7 for physicians; (ii) 10% toward awards for licensed advanced
8 practice registered nurses; (iii) 42% toward awards for
9 licensed registered nurses; (iv) 28% toward awards for
10 licensed social workers and licensed clinical social workers;
11 and (v) 10% toward awards for licensed practical nurses. The
12 award amount shall be based on a percentage of an awardee's
13 total outstanding loan balance. The maximum amount of any
14 award shall not exceed 15% of the awardee's total outstanding
15 loan balance for that award year. Any unawarded funds
16 allocated to a professional group shall be distributed toward
17 awards for a different professional group at the discretion of
18 the Commission.

19 Section 30. Eligibility; work requirement.

20 (a) To be eligible for assistance under the Community
21 Hospice and Palliative Care Professional Loan Repayment
22 Program, the Commission must find that the applicant satisfies
23 all of the following:

24 (1) the applicant is a United States citizen or an
25 eligible noncitizen;

1 (2) the applicant is a resident of this State;

2 (3) the applicant has worked for at least 12
3 consecutive months as a hospice and palliative care
4 professional in a hospice program in the State and has
5 worked (i) at least 10 hours per week if the applicant is a
6 physician, or (ii) at least 32 hours per week if the
7 applicant is not a physician;

8 (4) the applicant is a borrower with an outstanding
9 balance due on an educational loan; and

10 (5) the applicant has not defaulted on an educational
11 loan.

12 (b) The Commission may grant preference to a previous
13 recipient of a grant under the program, provided that the
14 recipient continues to meet the eligibility requirements under
15 this Section.

16 (c) A recipient of a grant under the program must complete
17 a separate 12-month period working in a hospice program in the
18 State for each grant that the recipient is awarded and must,
19 during that 12-month period, work (i) at least 10 hours per
20 week if the applicant is a physician or (ii) at least 32 hours
21 per week if the applicant is not a physician.

22 (d) If an appropriation for this program for a given
23 fiscal year is insufficient to provide grants to all qualified
24 applicants, the Commission shall allocate the appropriation in
25 accordance with this subsection. If funds are insufficient to
26 provide all qualified applicants with a grant as authorized by

1 this Section, the Commission shall allocate the available
2 grant funds for that fiscal year to qualified applicants who
3 submit a complete application on or before a date specified by
4 the Commission, based on the following order of priority:

5 (1) first, to new, qualified applicants or previous,
6 qualified recipients of a grant who are members of a
7 racial minority as defined in subsection (e); and

8 (2) second, to other new, qualified applicants or
9 previous, qualified recipients of a grant in accordance
10 with this Section.

11 (e) The Commission shall give priority to those applicants
12 who are members of a racial minority, which means a person who
13 is a citizen of the United States or a lawful permanent
14 resident alien of the United States and who is:

15 (1) Black, or a person having origins in any of the
16 black racial groups in Africa;

17 (2) Hispanic, or a person of Spanish or Portuguese
18 culture with origins in Mexico, South or Central America,
19 or the Caribbean Islands, regardless of race;

20 (3) Asian American, or a person having origins in any
21 of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia,
22 the Indian Subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands; or

23 (4) American Indian or Alaskan Native, or a person
24 having origins in any of the original peoples of North
25 America.

1 Section 35. Administration; rules. The Commission shall
2 administer the program and shall adopt rules not inconsistent
3 with this Act to implement and administer this Act.

4 Section 40. Act inoperative. This Act is inoperative 10
5 years the effective date of the Act.

6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
7 becoming law.".