

LFC Requester:	LFC
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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2024 REGULAR SESSION**

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, EMAIL ANALYSIS TO:

LFC@NMLEGIS.GOV

and

DFA@STATE.NM.US

{Include the bill no. in the email subject line, e.g., HB2, and only attach one bill analysis and related documentation per email message}

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Click all that apply:

Original Amendment
Correction Substitute

Date 2024-01-31
Bill No: HB288

Sponsor: Thomson, Elizabeth "Liz" Agency Name and Code NMHED
Short HEALTH PROFESSIONAL Number: _____
Title: LOAN DEFINITIONS Person Writing Romero, Heather
Phone: 5054768410 Email heather.romero@hed.n

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY24	FY25		
N/A	\$100,000.00	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY24	FY25	FY26		

N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY24	FY25	FY26	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act:

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

HB288 amends 21-22D-3 NMSA 1978 the Health Professional Loan Repayment Act expanding the definitions of the "Health Professional" in the health professional loan repayment.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

HB288 makes an appropriation of one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) from the General Fund to the Health Professional Loan Repayment Fund for expenditure in FY25 and subsequent fiscal years to provide awards pursuant to the Health Professional Loan Repayment Act. No more than ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) may be expended in any one fiscal year. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund.

This appropriation will support over 700 awards each fiscal year for the next ten (10) years assuming no additional funds are appropriated to the fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

HB288 amends podiatrist within the definition of a health professional to podiatric physician. HB288 expands the definition of health worker to include social worker, other professional in an

allied health professional as defined by the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED).

The purpose of the New Mexico Health Professional Loan Repayment Program (HPLRP) is to provide repayment for outstanding student loans of practicing health care professionals. As a condition of the program, a health professional must make a three-year service commitment to practice full-time in a designated medical shortage area in New Mexico. The HPLRP has received interest from health care professionals throughout the New Mexico. In FY23, NMHED awarded 701 new awards in all health care disciplines as defined under the act. There are currently 41 continuing participants on the program.

The maximum allowable award is twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per year. Factors which may affect the award amount include the applicant's amount of student loan debt and available funding for the program. Recipients are eligible for renewal upon completion of a three-year obligation.

HPLRP awardees are required to work in primary care practice as primary care physicians in underserved areas for three-year service commitment. Expanding eligibility will address other significant health care shortages through the HPLRP, e.g., shortages of physician specialists, hospitalist, and/or behavioral health practitioners in underserved areas.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

N/A

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) Financial Aid Division administers regulations promulgated pursuant to the Health Professional Loan Repayment Program in 5.7.3 NMAC.

The NMHED would need to amend the rules and regulations for the Health Professional Loan Repayment Program.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

N/A

TECHNICAL ISSUES

N/A

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

N/A

ALTERNATIVES

N/A

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

N/A

AMENDMENTS

N/A