

HOUSE BILL 370

Introduced by Molnar, et al.

1/27	Introduced
1/27	Referred to Judiciary
1/27	First Reading
1/27	Fiscal Note Requested
2/02	Fiscal Note Received
2/04	Fiscal Note Printed
2/10	Hearing
2/13	Tabled in Committee
2/19	Motion Failed to take from Committee and place on 2nd Reading
3/13	Rereferred to Appropriations
3/15	Tabled in Committee

1 House BILL NO. 370 *Hesting*
 2 INTRODUCED BY BRAD MALINAR Normandy
 3 *Small Cluff* *Rehbein* *SRice* *Hill*
 4 *FA 6-6* *NATH* *Bergman* *Carroll* *HART* *Malone* *Garfield*
 5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING AN INCENTIVE
 6 PROGRAM FOR PHYSICIANS TO PRACTICE IN MEDICAL SHORTAGE AREAS
 7 IN MONTANA; PROVIDING FOR QUALIFICATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN
 8 THE PROGRAM; RESTRICTING THE AMOUNT A PHYSICIAN MAY CHARGE
 9 FOR SERVICES; LIMITING THE PHYSICIAN'S LIABILITY FOR
 10 MALPRACTICE; AND REQUIRING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
 11 ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES PROVIDE STATEWIDE COORDINATION OF THE
 12 PROGRAM."

13 STATEMENT OF INTENT

14 A statement of intent is required for this bill because
 15 [section 5] grants rulemaking authority to the department of
 16 health and environmental sciences to coordinate an incentive
 17 program to attract semiretired physicians to Montana's rural
 18 areas where access to medical services is extremely limited
 19 or nonexistent.

20 It is the intent of the legislature that the incentive
 21 program provided in this bill be used to recruit physicians
 22 who are willing to operate a limited, part-time medical
 23 practice in Montana's medical shortage areas in exchange for
 24 state property tax and income tax exemptions.
 25

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

2 NEW SECTION. **Section 1.** Short title. [Sections 1
 3 through 5] may be cited as the "Physician Procurement Act".

4 NEW SECTION. **Section 2.** Purpose. The purpose of
 5 [sections 1 through 5] is to attract semiretired physicians
 6 willing to provide medical services at a low cost to rural
 7 areas in Montana that have a shortage of medical services
 8 and to improve rural Montanans' access to medical care.

9 NEW SECTION. **Section 3.** Definitions. As used in
 10 [sections 1 through 5], unless the context requires
 11 otherwise, the following definitions apply:

12 (1) "Department" means the department of health and
 13 environmental sciences provided for in Title 2, chapter 15,
 14 part 21.

15 (2) "Medical shortage area" means:

16 (a) an area designated by the department as a health
 17 professional shortage area under federal guidelines; or

18 (b) an area designated by the department as a medical
 19 shortage area under department rules adopted pursuant to
 20 [sections 1 through 5].

21 (3) "Physician" means a physician licensed to practice
 22 medicine in this state or in any other state.

23 (4) "Practice" means the location of a physician's
 24 primary place of providing medical services to the public.

25 NEW SECTION. **Section 4.** Qualifications -- incentives

1 under the provisions of [sections 1 through 5] are exempt
2 from taxation.

3 NEW SECTION. **Section 8. Severability.** If a part of
4 [this act] is invalid, all valid parts that are severable
5 from the invalid part remain in effect. If a part of [this
6 act] is invalid in one or more of its applications, the part
7 remains in effect in all valid applications that are
8 severable from the invalid applications.

9 NEW SECTION. **Section 9. Codification instruction.** (1)
10 [Sections 1 through 5] are intended to be codified as an
11 integral part of Title 50, and the provisions of Title 50
12 apply to [sections 1 through 5].

13 (2) [Section 6] is intended to be codified as an
14 integral part of Title 15, chapter 30, part 1, and the
15 provisions of Title 15, chapter 30, part 1, apply to
16 [section 6].

17 (3) [Section 7] is intended to be codified as an
18 integral part of Title 15, chapter 6, part 2, and the
19 provisions of Title 15, chapter 6, part 2, apply to [section
20 7].

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