



Sen. Lakesia Collins

Filed: 3/8/2024

10300SB3714sam001

LRB103 38778 RJT 70414 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 3714

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 3714 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. The purpose of this Act is to help
8 licensed hospice programs recruit and retain qualified
9 professionals and address this State's community-based hospice
10 and palliative care workforce shortage. The goal of the
11 program is to reduce disparities in access to critical health
12 services for people who have serious illnesses or who are
13 nearing the end of life.

14 Section 7. Findings. The General Assembly finds all of the
15 following:

1 (1) Racial minorities are underrepresented as users of
2 hospice and palliative care services and as hospice
3 interdisciplinary healthcare providers in this State.

4 (2) It is in the interest of the State to provide
5 racial minorities special consideration for programs that
6 encourage racial minority participation as hospice
7 interdisciplinary healthcare providers.

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

13 Section 10. Definitions. In this Act:

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

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

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

25 "Physician" means a person licensed by this State to

1 practice medicine in all its branches and includes any
2 physician holding a temporary license, as provided in the
3 Medical Practice Act of 1987.

4 "Program" means the Community Hospice and Palliative Care
5 Professional Loan Repayment Program established under this
6 Act.

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

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

22 Section 25. Awarding of grants. Subject to appropriation,
23 the Commission shall award a grant to each qualified applicant

1 for a maximum of 4 years. A grant awarded under the Program
2 shall be used for payments toward the recipient's educational
3 loans.

4 The Commission is encouraged to award grants from
5 appropriated funds in the following proportions, to the extent
6 feasible:

7 (1) 10% toward awards for physicians;

8 (2) 10% toward awards for licensed advanced practice
9 registered nurses;

10 (3) 40% toward awards for licensed registered nurses;

11 (4) 30% toward awards for licensed social workers and
12 licensed clinical social workers; and

13 (5) 10% toward awards for licensed practical nurses.

14 The amount of a grant award may not exceed (i) \$40,000 per
15 year for a physician, (ii) \$20,000 per year for a licensed
16 advanced practice registered nurse, (iii) \$15,000 per year for
17 a licensed social worker or licensed clinical social worker,
18 (iv) \$15,000 per year for a licensed registered nurse, and (v)
19 \$5,000 per year for a licensed practical nurse. However, if
20 there are any appropriated funds not awarded as grants under
21 paragraphs (1) through (5), then the Commission may award
22 grants from those funds to any qualified applicants.

23 No less than 30% of appropriated funds for grants under
24 the Program each fiscal year shall be reserved for grant
25 awards to minority applicants of African American or Black,
26 Hispanic or Latinx, Asian, or Native American origin. If the

1 Commission does not receive enough applications from such
2 qualified minority applicants on or before January 1 of a
3 given fiscal year to meet this threshold, then the Commission
4 may award a portion of the reserved grants to other qualified
5 applicants.

6 Section 30. Eligibility; work requirement.

7 (a) To be eligible for assistance under the Program, the
8 Commission must find that the applicant meets all of the
9 following qualifications:

10 (1) The applicant is a United States citizen or an
11 eligible noncitizen.

12 (2) The applicant is a resident of this State.

13 (3) The applicant has worked for at least 12
14 consecutive months as a hospice and palliative care
15 professional in a hospice program in this State and (i)
16 has worked at least 10 hours per week if the applicant is a
17 physician or (ii) has worked at least 32 hours per week if
18 the applicant is not a physician.

19 (4) The applicant is a borrower with an outstanding
20 balance due on an educational loan.

21 (5) The applicant has not defaulted on an educational
22 loan.

23 (b) The Commission may grant preference to a previous
24 recipient of a grant under the Program, provided that the
25 recipient continues to be eligible under subsection (a).

1 (c) A recipient of a grant under the Program shall
2 complete a separate 12-month period working in a hospice
3 program in this State for each grant that the recipient is
4 awarded and shall, during that 12-month period, (i) work at
5 least 10 hours per week if the applicant is a physician or (ii)
6 work at least 32 hours per week if the applicant is not a
7 physician.

8 Section 90. Administration; rules. The Commission shall
9 administer the Program and shall adopt rules not inconsistent
10 with this Act to implement and administer this Act.

11 Section 95. Repeal. This Act is repealed 10 years after
12 the effective date of this Act.

13 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
14 becoming law.".