

**As Passed by the Senate**

**127th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2007-2008**

**Sub. S. B. No. 147**

**Senator Faber**

**Cosponsors: Senators Schuring, Grendell, Wagoner, Morano, Seitz,  
Mumper, Buehrer, Coughlin, Harris, Miller, D., Padgett, Schaffer, Spada,  
Stivers, Cafaro, Amstutz, Sawyer, Jacobson, Fedor, Smith, Mason, Cates,  
Wilson**

**—**

**A B I L L**

To amend section 5120.55 of the Revised Code to 1  
permit the Department of Rehabilitation and 2  
Correction to recruit nurses and dentists through 3  
a loan repayment program. 4

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 5120.55 of the Revised Code be 5  
amended to read as follows: 6

**Sec. 5120.55.** (A) As used in this section, ~~"physician":~~ 7

(1) "Dentist" means an individual who holds a current, valid 8  
license issued under Chapter 4715. of the Revised Code to practice 9  
dentistry. 10

(2) "Licensed practical nurse" means an individual who holds 11  
a current, valid license issued under Chapter 4723. of the Revised 12  
Code that authorizes the practice of nursing as a licensed 13  
practical nurse. 14

(3) "Nurse" means a registered nurse or licensed practical 15

nurse. 16

(4) "Physician" means an individual who is authorized under 17  
Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code to practice medicine and 18  
surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, or podiatry. 19

(5) "Registered nurse" means an individual who holds a 20  
current, valid license issued under Chapter 4723. of the Revised 21  
Code that authorizes the practice of nursing as a registered nurse 22  
and includes a registered nurse who is a clinical nurse 23  
specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse 24  
practitioner. 25

(B)(1) The department of rehabilitation and correction may 26  
establish a ~~physician~~ recruitment program under which the 27  
department, by means of a contract entered into under division (C) 28  
of this section, agrees to repay all or part of the principal and 29  
interest of a government or other educational loan incurred by a 30  
physician, nurse, or dentist who agrees to provide services to 31  
inmates of correctional institutions under the department's 32  
administration. ~~To~~ 33

(2)(a) For a physician to be eligible to participate in the 34  
program, ~~a~~ the physician must have attended a school that was, 35  
during the time of attendance, a medical school or osteopathic 36  
medical school in this country accredited by the liaison committee 37  
on medical education or the American osteopathic association, a 38  
college of podiatry in this country recognized as being in good 39  
standing under section 4731.53 of the Revised Code, or a medical 40  
school, osteopathic medical school, or college of podiatry located 41  
outside this country that was acknowledged by the world health 42  
organization and verified by a member state of that organization 43  
as operating within that state's jurisdiction. 44

(b) For a nurse to be eligible to participate in the program, 45  
the nurse must have attended a school that was, during the time of 46

attendance, a nursing school in this country accredited by the 47  
commission of collegiate nursing education or the national league 48  
for nursing accrediting commission or a nursing school located 49  
outside this country that was acknowledged by the world health 50  
organization and verified by a member state of that organization 51  
as operating within that state's jurisdiction. 52

(c) For a dentist to be eligible to participate in the 53  
program, the dentist must have attended a school that was, during 54  
the time of attendance, a dental college that enabled the dentist 55  
to meet the requirements specified in section 4715.10 of the 56  
Revised Code to be granted a license to practice dentistry. 57

(C) The department shall enter into a contract with each 58  
physician, nurse, or dentist it recruits under this section. Each 59  
contract shall include at least the following terms: 60

(1) The physician, nurse, or dentist agrees to provide a 61  
specified scope of medical, osteopathic medical, ~~or~~ podiatric, 62  
nursing, or dental services to inmates of one or more specified 63  
state correctional institutions for a specified number of hours 64  
per week for a specified number of years. 65

(2) The department agrees to repay all or a specified portion 66  
of the principal and interest of a government or other educational 67  
loan taken by the physician, nurse, or dentist for the following 68  
expenses to attend, for up to a maximum of four years, a school 69  
that qualifies the physician, nurse, or dentist to participate in 70  
the program: 71

(a) Tuition; 72

(b) Other educational expenses for specific purposes, 73  
including fees, books, and laboratory expenses, in amounts 74  
determined to be reasonable in accordance with rules adopted under 75  
division (D) of this section; 76

(c) Room and board, in an amount determined to be reasonable 77

in accordance with rules adopted under division (D) of this 78  
section. 79

(3) The physician, nurse, or dentist agrees to pay the 80  
department a specified amount, which shall be no less than the 81  
amount already paid by the department pursuant to its agreement, 82  
as damages if the physician, nurse, or dentist fails to complete 83  
the service obligation agreed to or fails to comply with other 84  
specified terms of the contract. The contract may vary the amount 85  
of damages based on the portion of the ~~physician's~~ service 86  
obligation that remains uncompleted. 87

(4) Other terms agreed upon by the parties. 88

The ~~physician's~~ lending institution of the physician, nurse, 89  
or dentist, or the Ohio board of regents, may be a party to the 90  
contract. The contract may include an assignment to the department 91  
of the ~~physician's~~ duty of the physician, nurse, or dentist to 92  
repay the principal and interest of the loan. 93

(D) If the department elects to implement the ~~physician~~ 94  
recruitment program, it shall adopt rules in accordance with 95  
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code that establish all of the 96  
following: 97

(1) Criteria for designating institutions for which 98  
physicians, nurses, or dentist, or any combination thereof, will 99  
be recruited; 100

(2) Criteria for selecting physicians, nurses, or dentists, 101  
or any combination thereof, for participation in the program; 102

(3) Criteria for determining the portion of a ~~physician's~~ 103  
loan which the department will agree to repay; 104

(4) Criteria for determining reasonable amounts of the 105  
expenses described in divisions (C)(2)(b) and (c) of this section; 106

(5) Procedures for monitoring compliance by ~~physicians~~ a 107

<u>physician, nurse, or dentist</u> with the terms of <del>their contracts</del> <u>the</u>	108
<u>contract the individual enters into under this section;</u>	109
(6) Any other criteria or procedures necessary to implement	110
the program.	111
<b>Section 2.</b> That existing section 5120.55 of the Revised Code	112
is hereby repealed.	113