

**As Reported by the Senate Health, Human Services and Aging
Committee**

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Sub. S. B. No. 147

Senator Faber

Cosponsors: Senators Schuring, Grendell, Wagoner, Morano, Seitz

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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 organization and verified by a member state of that organization as operating within that state's jurisdiction. 50
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(c) For a dentist to be eligible to participate in the program, the dentist must have attended a school that was, during the time of attendance, a dental college that enabled the dentist to meet the requirements specified in section 4715.10 of the Revised Code to be granted a license to practice dentistry. 53
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(C) The department shall enter into a contract with each physician, nurse, or dentist it recruits under this section. Each contract shall include at least the following terms: 58
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(1) The physician, nurse, or dentist agrees to provide a specified scope of medical, osteopathic medical, ~~or~~ podiatric, nursing, or dental services to inmates of one or more specified state correctional institutions for a specified number of hours per week for a specified number of years. 61
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(2) The department agrees to repay all or a specified portion of the principal and interest of a government or other educational loan taken by the physician, nurse, or dentist for the following expenses to attend, for up to a maximum of four years, a school that qualifies the physician, nurse, or dentist to participate in the program: 66
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(a) Tuition; 72

(b) Other educational expenses for specific purposes, including fees, books, and laboratory expenses, in amounts determined to be reasonable in accordance with rules adopted under division (D) of this section; 73
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(c) Room and board, in an amount determined to be reasonable in accordance with rules adopted under division (D) of this section. 77
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(3) The physician, nurse, or dentist agrees to pay the department a specified amount, which shall be no less than the amount already paid by the department pursuant to its agreement, as damages if the physician, nurse, or dentist fails to complete the service obligation agreed to or fails to comply with other specified terms of the contract. The contract may vary the amount of damages based on the portion of the ~~physician's~~ service obligation that remains uncompleted.

(4) Other terms agreed upon by the parties.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(5) Procedures for monitoring compliance by ~~physicians~~ a physician, nurse, or dentist with the terms of ~~their contracts~~ the contract the individual enters into under this section;

(6) Any other criteria or procedures necessary to implement 110
the program. 111

Section 2. That existing section 5120.55 of the Revised Code 112
is hereby repealed. 113