

SESSION OF 2023

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2260

As Amended by Senate Committee on Public
Health and Welfare

Brief*

HB 2260, as amended, would amend law regarding the State Medical Student Loan Program and the Medical Residency Bridging Program (loan programs). The bill would also establish a obstetrics and gynecology medical loan repayment program. The bill would also make technical changes.

[*Note:* Under continuing law, the University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC) administers the two loan programs to incentivize the practice of medicine in certain areas of the state and in certain facilities of the state. The Kansas Medical Student Loan program provides tuition and a stipend to undergraduate students enrolled in or admitted to the University of Kansas School of Medicine who have entered into agreements to practice primary care medicine or psychiatry in areas of need in the state.]

University of Kansas School of Medicine Residencies

The bill would increase the number of medical student loan agreements available under the loan program at the university from 6 to up to 12.

The bill would also add a provision specifying the University of Kansas School of Medicine could not prohibit or create substantial impediment to students in the loan program

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

from switching between approved postgraduate residency training programs.

Medical Residency Training Programs in Obstetrics and Gynecology

The bill would include medical residency training programs in OBGYN as part of the postgraduate medical residency programs a person could enter into in order to qualify for state medical student and medical residency loan assistance.

Exemptions

The bill would exempt a person, or a person's spouse, who is unable to satisfy their obligations due to active military service from paying the 15 percent annual interest rate on any moneys received under such programs. Similarly, the bill would allow a person participating in a health-related fellowship to postpone the obligation to engage in the practice of medicine and surgery for not more than one year.

[*Note:* Under current law, any person who fails to complete an approved residency training program or fails to satisfy the obligation to engage in the full-time practice of medicine and surgery within a service commitment area for the required period of time must repay all money received from the loan programs, plus accumulated interest at an annual rate of 15 percent.]

Restrictions on Practice during Service Requirement

The bill would prohibit a person who completed an approved OBGYN residency training program from performing or inducing, or attempting to perform or induce, an abortion, or work for or create a clinic that performs or induces abortions during the time such person is satisfying the service requirement under the loan programs. A person

who fails to satisfy the service requirement due to the performance or inducement, or attempt at such, of an abortion would be required to repay all money received pursuant to the loan, plus accumulated interest at an annual rate of 15 percent.

[*Note:* A person who performs or induces, or attempts to perform or induce, an abortion in the case of a medical emergency or in the case of a pregnancy resulting from rape or incest would not be deemed to have failed to complete the service requirement.]

Funds and Scholarships

The bill would also establish the OBGYN Medical Loan Repayment Fund and the OBGYN Medical Residency Bridging Fund to be used for OBGYN residency training programs.

The bill would authorize the Kansas Board of Regents to award osteopathic medical service scholarships to Kansas residents who are undergraduate students enrolled in or admitted to pre-accredited schools of osteopathic medicine.

Background

The bill was introduced in the House Committee on Health and Human Services at the request of Representative Clifford on behalf of the Association of Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs) of Kansas. The Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare amended the bill to add the contents of SB 98, as amended by the Senate Committee on Education.

***HB 2260 (University of Kansas School of Medicine
Residencies)***

House Committee on Health and Human Services

In the House Committee hearing on February 6, 2023, **proponent** testimony was provided by representatives of the Association of CMHCs of Kansas, Kansas Mental Health Coalition, and The Guidance Center. The proponents stated the Kansas Medical Student Loan program is one means of addressing workforce shortages, particularly in mental health care, and attracting primary care and psychiatric physicians to underserved areas.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by a representative of the Kansas Medical Society.

No other testimony was provided.

Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

In the Senate Committee hearing on March 23, 2023, **proponent** testimony was provided by a representative of the Association of CMHCs of Kansas, Inc., who provided substantially similar testimony as in the House Committee hearing.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by representatives of Association of CMHCs of Kansas, Inc. and Kansas Medical Society.

No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill by adding the contents of SB 98, as amended by the Senate Committee on Education.

***SB 98 Medical Residency Training Programs in
Obstetrics and Gynecology (OBGYN)***

Senate Committee on Education

In the Senate Committee hearing on February 20, 2023, **proponent** testimony was provided by representatives of the Kansas Health Science Center - Kansas College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Kansas Section of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and a private citizen. Written-only proponent testimony was provided by the Executive Director of the Kansas Medical Society and two representatives of the Kansas College of Osteopathic Medicine. The proponents testified generally that the bill would help to ensure that Kansans who live in rural areas of the state have access to quality OBGYN services.

Neutral testimony was provided by a representative of KUMC, who provided general information on the Medical Student Loan Program and the Medical Residency Bridging Program.

No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to:

- Remove the 15 percent annual interest rate penalty during the time period a person is unable to satisfy their obligations under the programs due to active military service;
- Extend scholarship eligibility to Kansas students who attend pre-accredited schools of osteopathic medicine; and
- Postpone the obligation to engage in the practice of medicine and surgery for not more than one year during which a person participates in a health-related fellowship program.

Fiscal Information

HB 2260 (University of Kansas School of Medicine Residencies)

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the KUMC indicates enactment would have no fiscal effect on state revenues or expenditures.

SB 98 Medical Residency Training Programs in Obstetrics and Gynecology (OBGYN)

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, KUMC indicates the bill would require an additional \$57,327 per OBGYN medical student loan agreement and \$10,000 per OBGYN medical residency bridging loan agreement annually; however, payments would be subject to appropriations. KUMC indicates that without additional state appropriation, the expansion could reduce available awards that would have otherwise gone to students enrolled in primary care programs. KUMC estimates the bill would increase annual expenditures by \$27,000, for an additional 0.4 FTE position to administer the program.

Medical Student Loan Program; mental health; OBGYN medical loan repayment fund; osteopathic medical service scholarship; residency training program; service commitment area; University of Kansas School of Medicine