

REFERENCE TITLE: rural providers; loan repayment program

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-fifth Legislature
First Regular Session
2021

HB 2126

Introduced by
Representative Osborne

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 36-2174, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO MEDICALLY
UNDERSERVED AREAS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 36-2174, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 36-2174. Rural private primary care provider loan repayment
5 program; private practice; rules

6 A. Subject to the availability of monies, the department shall
7 establish a rural private primary care provider loan repayment program for
8 physicians, dentists, pharmacists, behavioral health providers and advance
9 practice providers with current or prospective rural primary care
10 practices located in federally designated health professional shortage
11 areas or medically underserved areas in this state, as prescribed in
12 section 36-2352. To be eligible to participate in the program, an
13 applicant shall agree to provide organized, discounted, sliding fee scale
14 services for medically uninsured individuals from families with annual
15 incomes below two hundred percent of the federal poverty guidelines as
16 established annually by the United States department of health and human
17 services. **AN APPLICANT WHO WORKS AT AN INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE OR TRIBAL**
18 **FACILITY IS NOT REQUIRED TO PROVIDE A SLIDING FEE SCALE TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR**
19 **THE PROGRAM.** The department shall approve the sliding fee scale used by
20 the provider. The provider shall ensure notice to consumers of the
21 availability of these services. The department shall give preference to
22 applicants who agree to serve in rural areas.

23 B. Except as provided in section 36-2172, subsection B, paragraph
24 2, the program established pursuant to this section and loan repayment
25 contracts made pursuant to this section shall comply with the requirements
26 of section 36-2172.

27 C. The department may apply for and receive private donations and
28 grant monies to implement the rural private primary care provider loan
29 repayment program established pursuant to this section.

30 D. The department shall adopt rules to cancel or suspend a loan
31 repayment contract, impose a penalty for default or find a person in
32 default of a contract.

33 Sec. 2. Department of health service; rulemaking exemption

34 For the purposes of this act, the department of health services is
35 exempt from the rulemaking requirements of title 41, chapters 6 and 6.1,
36 Arizona Revised Statutes, for eighteen months after the effective date of
37 this act.