



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative Gina Cobb (R-5)

Representative Tim Dunn (R-13)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Representatives Cobb and Dunn Applaud UArizona's Tuition Waiver Program for Primary Care Medical Students

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Representatives Gina Cobb (R-5) and Tim Dunn (R-13) today praised the University of Arizona (UArizona) for announcing that the Colleges of Medicine in Tucson and Phoenix will waive tuition for medical students who commit to practice primary care in an underserved community in Arizona for at least two years.

The Legislature's 2020 budget included \$8 million to expand UArizona's Colleges of Medicine and fund the tuition waiver program.

"Not only does UArizona's primary care tuition waiver program provide an opportunity for medical students to graduate without crippling student loan debt, but it will get primary care physicians to the areas of the state that badly need them," said Representative Cobb. **"I applaud UArizona for their work addressing Arizona's primary care shortage, and I couldn't be prouder that the Legislature has made this program a priority."**

"Arizona ranks 44th among states in active primary care physicians per capita, and rural Arizona is bearing the brunt," said Representative Dunn. **"Patients shouldn't have to wait weeks or even months to get an appointment with a primary care physician, but that's the situation many of my constituents face. UArizona's tuition waiver program will begin to address this critical doctor shortage, and I thank my colleagues in the Legislature for recognizing the problem and funding this program."**

Medical students who participate in the tuition waiver program must commit to practice primary care for two years in an underserved community or an area with a health professional shortage. Applicants must be Arizona residents and full-time medical students at UArizona.

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