

LEGAL SERVICES

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MEMORANDUM

March 17, 2009

SUBJECT: Sectional Summary (SB 139; Work Order No. 26-LS0503\E)

TO: Senator Donald Olson
Attn: Kendri Cesar

FROM: Jean M. Mischel
Legislative Counsel 

You have requested a sectional summary of the above-described bill.

As a preliminary matter, note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill and the bill itself is the best statement of its contents. If you would like an interpretation of the bill as it may apply to a particular set of circumstances, please advise.

Section 1. Requires the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education to repay education loans made to health care professionals, as defined, under eligibility criteria established in sec. 2. Specifies that the loan repayment obligation is not a financial obligation of the corporation. Provides for quarterly payments based on the fulfillment of qualified employment at eligible sites located in the state.

Section 2. Establishes the health care professions loan repayment and incentive program in the Department of Health and Social Services for the purpose of addressing a shortage of certain health care professionals in the state and for improving the distribution of those professionals. Requires the commissioner of health and social services to administer the program, to designate and prioritize eligible employment sites, and to monitor the program in consultation with an advisory body established under this section. Provides for maximum combined loan repayment and employment incentives base on the type of employment.

Section 3. Provides for an immediate effective date for the bill.

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