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Explanation of Changes

SB 93: MEDICAL PROVIDERS INCENTIVES/LOAN REPAYMENT

Version A to U

Section 18.29.100 Legislative Intent:

Version U clarifies the Legislative Intent is to increase the availability of health care services throughout the state, especially to underserved individuals and health care professional shortage areas. References to “underserved” were changed to “underserved individuals” throughout the bill.

Section 18.29.105, Advisory Council:

Version U clarifies department employees can participate as non-voting members, but may not serve in a leadership role, and establishes that civil penalties, not to exceed \$1,000, per violation, apply to both participating employers and health care professionals.

Section 18.29.110, Employer Payments:

New language sets out the annual maximum payment amounts for direct incentives per tier:

- Tier I: \$35,000 for regular positions and \$47,250 for very hard-to-fill positions
- Tier II: \$20,000 for regular positions and \$27,000 for very hard-to-fill positions
- Tier III: \$15,000 for regular positions and \$20,250 for very hard-to-fill positions

Section 18.29.125, Student Loan Repayment:

Clarifies eligibility requirements for repayment of student loans.

Section 18.29.130, Eligibility:

Clarifies verification of student loan debt may be conducted by the Alaska Commission on Post-Secondary Education or the Department of Health and Human Services.

Section 18.29.190, Definitions:

Adds a definition for the term “underserved individuals.”

Additionally, Version U deletes Sections 7, 9, and 10 in the original bill, thereby removing all language pertaining to a requirement of a doctoral degree for advance practice registered nurses.

Lastly, the sections throughout the Committee Substitute were re-numbered accordingly.