

Original sponsors: Ellis, Koponen,
Menard and Donley

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 409 (HESS)

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to forgiveness of student loans of
7 certain health care professionals."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. AS 14.43.120 is amended by adding a new subsection to
10 read:

11 (s) If a borrower meets the conditions provided in this section
12 and is employed as a health care professional in an area determined to
13 have a health care professional shortage for the borrower's profession
14 by the United States Public Health Service under 42 U.S.C. 254(e) or
15 by the Department of Health and Social Services under AS 44.29.020(b),
16 a portion of the loan shall be paid by the state equal to the follow-
17 ing percentages of the total loan received plus interest up to a total
18 of 100 percent of the total loan: (1) one year employment, 15 per-
19 cent; (2) two years employment, an additional 15 percent; (3) three
20 years employment, an additional 15 percent; (4) four years employment,
21 an additional 25 percent; (5) five years employment, an additional 30
22 percent. In this subsection, "health care professional" means a
23 person who is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized by the
24 state to administer health care in the ordinary course of a business
25 or practice of a profession.

26 * Sec. 2. AS 44.29.020 is amended by adding a new subsection to
27 read:

28 (b) The department shall determine by profession those geo-
29 graphic areas or institutions of the state that have a health care

1 professional shortage. The information determined under this sub-
2 section shall be provided to the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary
3 Education. In this subsection "health care professional" has the
4 meaning given in AS 14.43.120(s).