

SESSION OF 2002

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON
SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 2057**

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Ways and Means

Brief*

Sub. for HB 2057, as amended, concerns medically underserved areas. Because the medical student scholarship program being repealed has been replaced with a medical student loan program, and because those persons participating in the loan program may satisfy their service obligations incurred under the loan program anywhere in Kansas, except in the largest urban counties, the bill repeals a number of statutes related to the scholarship program and service area designations. Additionally, the bill:

- Retains the requirement that medically underserved areas be designated, but transfers the responsibility for making the designation from the Chancellor of the University of Kansas or the Chancellor's designee to the Secretary of Health and Environment.
- Strikes from the statutes the requirement that designations be made for critically medically underserved areas by specialty for the medical loan program, but retains references to those designations as they existed prior to July 1, 2002, for purposes of students meeting obligations under the advanced registered nurse practitioners training program.
- Deletes from the statutes references to service commitment areas that were relevant to the medical scholarship program and not relevant to the medical loan program, but retains the service commitment area designations as they existed immediately prior to the effective date of this act for the purposes of satisfying service obligations under the osteopathic scholarship program.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org/cgi-bin/fulltext/bills.cgi>

- Renames the Medical Scholarship and Loan Repayment Fund as the Medical Loan Repayment Fund.
- Inserts where appropriate in the definition of “primary care,” family medicine.

House Committee amendments are technical and reflect changes made to various statutes contained in the bill during the 2001 Session of the Legislature.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to delete a provision added by the House which would have added child psychiatry to the areas of study which qualify for consideration for medical student loans.

Background

Sub. for HB 2057, as amended, ostensibly repeals the Medical Scholarship Program enacted in 1978. The financial support program was recreated in 1992 as the Medical Loan Program. Since most of the recipients of medical scholarships have satisfied their service obligations or are in the process of doing so, the University of Kansas supports repealing those statutes related to the scholarship program.

While the designation underserved areas is not relevant to the University of Kansas at this time, the designation of medically underserved areas is important to certain programs administered by the Department of Health and Environment, particularly the development of rural health clinics.

Both the University of Kansas and the Department of Health and Environment supported HB 2057, as amended.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget indicates passage of the bill would have no fiscal effect.