

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 740

S.P. 270

In Senate, March 5, 2015

An Act To Sustain Maine's Primary Care Professional Workforce

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis.
Cosponsored by Representative ALLEY of Beals and
Senators: BRAKEY of Androscoggin, HASKELL of Cumberland, LANGLEY of Hancock,
Representatives: BURSTEIN of Lincolnville, DUNPHY of Embden, GOODE of Bangor,
SKOLFIELD of Weld, TUELL of East Machias.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §5219-LL, sub-§1, ¶A,** as reallocated by RR 2013, c. 2, §46,
3 is amended to read:

4 A. "Eligible primary care professional" means a person licensed under Title 32,
5 chapter 31, subchapter 3 or subchapter 4; Title 32, chapter 36, subchapter 4; or Title
6 32, chapter 48, subchapter 2 and who, on or after January 1, 2013:

7 (1) ~~First begins practicing~~ Practices primary care medicine in the State ~~by~~
8 ~~joining as part of~~ an existing health care practice in an underserved area or
9 ~~establishing~~ establishes a new health care practice or ~~purchasing~~ purchases an
10 existing health care practice in an underserved area;

11 (2) Agrees to practice full time for at least 5 years following certification under
12 subsection 3 in an underserved area;

13 (3) Is certified under subsection 3 to be eligible by the Department of Health and
14 Human Services; and

15 (4) Has an unpaid student loan owed to an institution for course work directly
16 related to that person's training in primary care medicine.

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This bill expands eligibility for the income tax credit for eligible new primary care
19 professionals to include persons already practicing in underserved areas and certified as
20 eligible by the Department of Health and Human Services in order to facilitate retention
21 as well as recruitment of eligible professionals.