

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 681

H.P. 502

House of Representatives, February 7, 2019

An Act To Amend the Maine Dental Education Loan Program

Submitted by the Finance Authority of Maine pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Reference to the Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MASTRACCIO of Sanford.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§7-C**, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 401, Pt. NN, §1
3 and c. 496, §1, is repealed.

4 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §12301, sub-§4**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2001, c.
5 471, Pt. B, §11 and amended by PL 2003, c. 689, Pt. B, §§6 and 7, is further amended to
6 read:

7 **4. Underserved population area.** "Underserved population area" means a
8 ~~population group or geographical area receiving insufficient oral health care, as~~
9 ~~determined by the Commissioner of Health and Human Services and as defined in rules~~
10 ~~adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to section 12305.~~
11 ~~The rules must take into consideration factors that include, but are not limited to, family~~
12 ~~income levels, availability of dental care and percentage of families qualifying for~~
13 ~~Medicaid coverage~~ an area in the State that is a dental health professional shortage area or
14 medically underserved area or that contains a medically underserved population as
15 defined by the federal Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and
16 Services Administration.

17 **Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §12302, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 401, Pt. NN, §2
18 and affected by §4 and enacted by c. 496, §2, is amended to read:

19 **4. Maximum amount.** The maximum loan or loan repayment amount available to
20 each participant is \$20,000 per year for a period of up to 4 years. For a loan recipient
21 who receives a first loan after January 1, 2020 or a loan repayment participant who signs
22 a first agreement after January 1, 2020, the maximum loan or loan repayment amount
23 available is \$25,000 per year for a period of up to 4 years.

24 **Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §12302, sub-§5, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 401, Pt. NN,
25 §2 and affected by §4 and enacted by c. 496, §2, is amended to read:

26 C. A loan recipient serving an underserved population area pursuant to paragraph A,
27 subparagraph (2) must serve ~~all~~ patients regardless of ability to pay through insurance
28 or other payment source.

29 **Sec. 5. 20-A MRSA §12302, sub-§6, ¶¶A and B**, as enacted by PL 1999, c.
30 401, Pt. NN, §2 and affected by §4 and enacted by c. 496, §2, are amended to read:

31 A. An applicant will receive payment from the authority on the applicant's
32 outstanding indebtedness for dental education at a rate of \$20,000 per year of service
33 for up to 4 years as long as the applicant continues to serve as a practitioner of dental
34 medicine in an underserved population area. A loan repayment participant who signs
35 a first agreement after January 1, 2020 receives payment from the authority on the
36 participant's outstanding indebtedness for dental education at a rate of up to \$25,000
37 per year of service for up to 4 years as long as the participant continues to serve as a
38 practitioner of dental medicine in an underserved population area.

39 B. A person receiving loan repayment payments under this subsection must serve ~~all~~
40 patients regardless of ability to pay through insurance or other payment source.

