

HOUSE No. 4121

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul McMurtry

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to supporting primary care physicians in the commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/17/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 4121

By Representative McMurtry of Dedham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4121) of Paul McMurtry relative to primary care physician loan repayment program. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act relative to supporting primary care physicians in the commonwealth.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 29 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 2JJJJJ the following section:-

3 2KKKKKK. (a) There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth
4 a separate fund known as the Primary Care Physician Loan Repayment Fund. The fund shall be
5 credited with: (i) appropriations or other money authorized or transferred by the general court
6 and specifically designated to be credited to the fund; (ii) funds from public and private sources,
7 including, but not limited to, gifts, grants and donations; and (iii) any interest earned on the
8 assets of the fund. Amounts credited to the fund that are unexpended at the end of a fiscal year
9 shall not revert to the General Fund.

10 (b) Amounts credited to the fund may be expended, without further appropriation, by the
11 health care workforce center established in section 25L of chapter 111 for loan assistance

12 payments under the primary care physician loan repayment program established in section 25N¹/₄
13 of said chapter 111.

14 (c) Annually, not later than July 1, the center shall submit to the clerks of the house of
15 representatives and the senate, the house and senate committees on ways and means, the joint
16 committee on health care financing, the joint committee on mental health and substance abuse
17 and the joint committee on public health a report on the activities of the fund.

18 SECTION 2. Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
19 section 25N the following section:-

20 Section 25N¹/₄. (a) There shall be a primary care physician loan repayment program
21 administered by the health care workforce center established in section 25L. The program shall
22 pay the medical school loan balance of participants who commit to practicing medicine as a
23 primary care physician in the commonwealth for at least 10 years. Each recipient shall enter into
24 a contract with the commonwealth, which shall obligate the recipient to perform a term of
25 service of not less than 10 years as a primary care physician in the commonwealth.

26 (b) The center shall promulgate regulations for the administration and enforcement of this
27 section, which shall include penalties and repayment procedures if a participant fails to comply
28 with the service contract.

29 (c) The center shall evaluate the program annually, including exit interviews of
30 participants to determine their post-program service plans and to solicit program improvement
31 recommendations.

32 (d) Annually, not later than July 1, the center shall file a report with the governor, the
33 clerks of the house of representatives and the senate, the house and senate committees on ways
34 and means, the joint committee on health care financing, the joint committee on mental health
35 and substance abuse and the joint committee on public health. The report shall include annual
36 data and historical trends of: (i) the number of applicants, the number accepted and the number
37 of participants by race, gender, medical school, residence prior to medical school and where they
38 plan to practice after program completion; (ii) the service placement locations and length of
39 service commitments by participants; (iii) the number of participants who fail to fulfill the
40 program requirements and the reason for the failures; and (iv) program expenditures.