

First Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 17-0991.01 Jennifer Berman x3286

HOUSE BILL 17-1282

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Ginal,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Sonnenberg, Kefalas

House Committees

Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A VETERINARY EDUCATION LOAN**
102 **REPAYMENT PROGRAM TO ASSIST VETERINARIANS WITH**
103 **EDUCATION LOAN REPAYMENTS IN EXCHANGE FOR PROVIDING**
104 **VETERINARY SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS OF THE STATE IN NEED**
105 **OF VETERINARY SERVICES.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill creates the state veterinary education loan repayment council (council), which consists of 5 directors appointed by the

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.

Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.

Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

governor. The council administers the veterinary education loan repayment program (program) by use of funds from the veterinary education loan repayment fund (fund), which program and fund are also created in the bill. Through the program, the council provides veterinary education loan repayments from the fund to eligible veterinarians who:

- ! Have graduated from an accredited doctor of veterinary medicine school;
- ! Currently live in Colorado or, at some point, have lived in Colorado for at least 3 years; and
- ! Agree to practice veterinary medicine for up to 4 years in a rural area of the state that is experiencing a shortage of veterinarians that the council designates for participation in the program.

To implement the program, the council enters into a contract with an eligible veterinarian and the rural area of the state in which the veterinarian will practice veterinary medicine.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 10 to article

3 31 of title 23 as follows:

PART 10

VETERINARY EDUCATION LOAN

REPAYMENT PROGRAM

7 **23-31-1001. Legislative declaration.** (1) THE GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DETERMINES THAT:

9 (a) MORE THAN ONE-THIRD OF RURAL COMMUNITIES IN COLORADO
10 HAVE AT MOST ONE LIVESTOCK-ORIENTED VETERINARIAN, THUS LEAVING
11 THE OWNERS OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF LIVESTOCK WITH LITTLE OR
12 NO ACCESS TO VETERINARY MEDICINE;

13 (b) FOOD SECURITY AND SAFETY ARE DIRECTLY LINKED TO ANIMAL
14 HEALTH;

15 (c) COLORADO PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN MEETING OUR GROWING
16 POPULATION'S INCREASING DEMAND FOR PROTEIN;

1 (d) ACCORDING TO NATIONWIDE MARKET STATISTICS DEVELOPED
2 FOR THE AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, LESS THAN FIVE
3 PERCENT OF VETERINARIANS IN THE UNITED STATES PRACTICE
4 PREDOMINANTLY ON LIVESTOCK;

5 (e) RURAL VETERINARIANS PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE IN PROTECTING
6 THE HEALTH OF ANIMALS AND HUMANS;

7 (f) MANY GRADUATES OF COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY'S
8 COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES WERE
9 RAISED IN RURAL AREAS AND ARE INTERESTED IN LIVESTOCK-ORIENTED
10 PRACTICE; HOWEVER, THESE GRADUATES OFTEN FEEL LIMITED TO
11 PRACTICE IN AREAS OF THE STATE WITH HIGHER STARTING SALARIES DUE
12 TO THEIR LOAN REPAYMENT OBLIGATIONS; AND

13 (g) LOAN FORGIVENESS AND REPAYMENT PROGRAMS IN OTHER
14 STATES HAVE IMPROVED VETERINARIANS' ABILITY TO PURSUE VETERINARY
15 PRACTICES IN RURAL AREAS

21 **23-31-1002. Definitions - rules. AS USED IN THIS PART 10, UNLESS**
22 THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

23 (1) "COUNCIL" MEANS THE STATE VETERINARY EDUCATION LOAN
24 REPAYMENT COUNCIL CREATED IN SECTION 23-31-1003.

25 (2) "LICENSED VETERINARIAN" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET
26 FORTH IN SECTION 12-64-103 (9).

27 (3) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE STATE VETERINARY EDUCATION LOAN

1 REPAYMENT PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 23-31-1004.

2 (4) "RURAL" MEANS:

3 (a) A COUNTY WITH A POPULATION OF FEWER THAN FIFTY
4 THOUSAND; OR

5 (b) A MUNICIPALITY WITH A POPULATION OF FEWER THAN TWENTY
6 THOUSAND IF THE MUNICIPALITY IS NOT CONTIGUOUS TO A MUNICIPALITY
7 WITH A POPULATION OF TWENTY THOUSAND OR MORE.

8 (5) "VETERINARIAN" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN
9 SECTION 12-64-103 (15).

10 (6) "VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREA" MEANS A RURAL AREA THAT
11 THE COUNCIL DETERMINES HAS A SHORTAGE OF VETERINARIANS
12 PRACTICING IN THE AREA.

13 **23-31-1003. State veterinary education loan repayment**
14 **council - creation - membership.** (1) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED IN
15 COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY'S COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE AND
16 BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES THE VETERINARY EDUCATION LOAN REPAYMENT
17 COUNCIL, REFERRED TO IN THIS PART 10 AS THE "COUNCIL". THE COUNCIL
18 SHALL BE UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION OF THE DEAN OF COLORADO
19 STATE UNIVERSITY'S COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL
20 SCIENCES OR THE DEAN'S DESIGNEE. THE DEAN OR THE DEAN'S DESIGNEE
21 MAY AUTHORIZE STAFF ASSISTANCE TO PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE
22 SUPPORT FOR THE COUNCIL IF SUCH STAFF ASSISTANCE CAN BE PROVIDED
23 WITHIN COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY'S EXISTING APPROPRIATIONS.

24 (2) (a) THE COUNCIL CONSISTS OF FIVE DIRECTORS APPOINTED BY
25 THE GOVERNOR. A DIRECTOR OF THE COUNCIL:

26 (I) MUST NOT BE AN ELECTED OFFICIAL;
27 (II) MAY SERVE UP TO THREE CONSECUTIVE TERMS; AND

5 (b) (I) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2017, THE GOVERNOR SHALL
6 APPOINT THE INITIAL FIVE DIRECTORS OF THE COUNCIL. THE COUNCIL
7 MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING REPRESENTATIVES:

11 (B) THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE OR HIS OR HER
12 DESIGNEE;

13 (C) AT LEAST ONE DIRECTOR MUST BE ASSOCIATED WITH, AND
14 ABLE TO REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF, THE COLORADO LIVESTOCK
15 INDUSTRIES; AND

16 (D) AT LEAST ONE DIRECTOR MUST BE ASSOCIATED WITH, AND
17 ABLE TO REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF, THE COLORADO VETERINARY
18 MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

19 (II) OF THE INITIAL FIVE DIRECTORS, THREE SERVE FOR FOUR-YEAR
20 TERMS AND TWO SERVE FOR TWO-YEAR TERMS. ALL SUBSEQUENT TERMS
21 ARE FOUR-YEAR TERMS

22 (III) UNLESS EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES SUCH AS ILLNESS OR
23 DEATH REQUIRE OTHERWISE, EACH DIRECTOR SHALL HOLD OFFICE UNTIL
24 HIS OR HER SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED.

25 (3) THE GOVERNOR, AT HIS OR HER PLEASURE, MAY REMOVE A
26 DIRECTOR OF THE COUNCIL AT ANY TIME. IF A DIRECTOR VACATES HIS OR
27 HER SEAT ON THE COUNCIL DURING THE TERM FOR WHICH THE DIRECTOR

1 WAS APPOINTED, THE GOVERNOR SHALL FILL THE RESULTANT VACANCY BY
2 APPOINTING A DIRECTOR FOR THE REMAINDER OF THAT TERM. THE
3 SUCCESSOR DIRECTOR MUST MEET THE SAME QUALIFICATIONS UNDER THIS
4 SECTION AS HIS OR HER PREDECESSOR.

5 (4) (a) AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE COUNCIL, AND AS
6 NECESSARY THEREAFTER, THE DIRECTORS SHALL APPOINT FROM THEIR
7 MEMBERSHIP A CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL, WHO HAVE JOINT
8 AUTHORITY OVER THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL MATTERS, INCLUDING LOAN
9 REPAYMENT AUTHORIZATIONS BASED ON THE COUNCIL'S APPROVAL OF
10 LOAN REPAYMENT APPLICATIONS.

11 (b) PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-6-402, THE COUNCIL SHALL
12 CONDUCT ALL BUSINESS AT REGULAR OR SPECIAL MEETINGS THAT ARE
13 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. THE COUNCIL SHALL MEET AS OFTEN AS NECESSARY
14 TO PERFORM ITS DUTIES UNDER THIS **PART 10.**

15 (c) COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRES THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A
16 MAJORITY OF THE TOTAL MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL.

17 **23-31-1004. State veterinary education loan repayment**
18 **program - creation - purpose.** THE COUNCIL ~~SHALL, TO THE EXTENT~~
19 ~~THAT THE COUNCIL RECEIVES SUFFICIENT GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS~~
20 ~~TO COVER THE COSTS OF AWARDING LOAN REPAYMENTS, ADMINISTER THE~~
21 ~~VETERINARY EDUCATION LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE~~
22 ~~FINANCIAL INCENTIVES TO LICENSED VETERINARIANS TO PRACTICE~~
23 ~~VETERINARY MEDICINE IN VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREAS OF THE STATE~~
24 ~~THROUGH ASSISTANCE WITH THE REPAYMENT OF VETERINARY EDUCATION~~
25 ~~LOANS.~~

26 **23-31-1005. Council powers and duties.** (1) ~~TO IMPLEMENT THIS~~
27 ~~PART 10, THE COUNCIL SHALL:~~

1 (a) PURSUANT TO THE CRITERIA SET FORTH IN SECTION
2 23-31-1006, DETERMINE THE ELIGIBILITY AND QUALIFICATIONS OF AN
3 APPLICANT FOR LOAN REPAYMENT UNDER THE PROGRAM;

4 (b) WITH RESPECT TO THE VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREAS THAT
5 ARE IN NEED OF VETERINARY MEDICAL SERVICES:

6 (I) IDENTIFY AND DESIGNATE THE VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREAS
7 THAT WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THE CRITERIA
8 ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNCIL AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 23-31-1007;

12 (III) ANNUALLY UPDATE THE LIST OF DESIGNATED VETERINARY
13 SHORTAGE AREAS AND THE PRIORITY RANKINGS;

14 (c) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAXIMUM AMOUNTS SET FORTH IN
15 SECTION 23-31-1009, DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF LOAN REPAYMENT
16 MONEY TO WHICH AN APPLICANT SELECTED UNDER THE PROGRAM IS
17 ELIGIBLE, BASED ON THE UNPAID AMOUNT OF ANY OUTSTANDING
18 EDUCATION LOAN THAT MEETS THE CRITERIA SET FORTH IN SECTION
19 23-31-1006 (2); AND

20 (d) UPON SELECTING AN APPLICANT, ENTER INTO A RENEWABLE
21 CONTRACT WITH THE SELECTED APPLICANT AND THE DESIGNATED
22 VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREA TO WHICH THE SELECTED APPLICANT HAS
23 BEEN MATCHED TO PROVIDE LOAN REPAYMENT MONEY ON THE SELECTED
24 APPLICANT'S BEHALF IN EXCHANGE FOR THE SELECTED APPLICANT'S
25 AGREEMENT TO ACTIVELY PRACTICE VETERINARY MEDICINE IN THE
26 VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREA.

27 (2) IN FURTHERANCE OF ITS DUTIES UNDER THIS PART 10, THE

1 COUNCIL MAY:

2 (a) RECEIVE AND USE MONEY APPROPRIATED FOR OR DONATED TO
3 THE PROGRAM TO BE USED IN FURTHERANCE OF THE PROGRAM;

4 (b) WITH RESPECT TO ANY CONTRACT THAT THE COUNCIL HAS
5 ENTERED INTO WITH A SELECTED APPLICANT AND A DESIGNATED
6 VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREA UNDER THE PROGRAM:

7 (I) ENFORCE THE CONTRACT; OR

8 (II) CANCEL THE CONTRACT FOR GOOD CAUSE BASED ON A
9 DETERMINATION THAT THE APPLICANT IS NOT COMPLYING WITH THE
10 TERMS OF THE CONTRACT;

11 (c) MONITOR FEDERAL PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT THE REPAYMENT
12 OF EDUCATION LOANS INCURRED BY VETERINARIANS; AND

13 (d) ACCEPT PROPERTY FROM ANOTHER ENTITY TO BE USED IN
14 FURTHERANCE OF THE PROGRAM.

15 **23-31-1006. Program applicant eligibility - criteria.** (1) EACH
16 YEAR, THE COUNCIL SHALL SELECT UP TO FOUR QUALIFIED VETERINARIAN
17 APPLICANTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM. THE NUMBER OF
18 APPLICANTS THAT THE COUNCIL MAY CHOOSE IN A GIVEN YEAR IS
19 DEPENDENT ON THE AMOUNT OF MONEY AVAILABLE IN THAT YEAR FOR
20 THE COUNCIL TO AWARD UNDER THE PROGRAM.

21 (2) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR REPAYMENT UNDER THE PROGRAM, AN
22 APPLICANT MUST:

23 (a) BE A LICENSED VETERINARIAN WHO:

24 (I) AGREES, IN THE FORM AND MANNER DETERMINED BY THE
25 COUNCIL, TO PRACTICE VETERINARY MEDICINE IN A VETERINARY
26 SHORTAGE AREA, AS DESIGNATED BY THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO SECTION

27 **23-31-1007;** AND

1 (II) GRADUATED FROM AN ACCREDITED DOCTOR OF VETERINARY
2 MEDICINE SCHOOL IN 2017 OR LATER;

3 (b) CURRENTLY LIVES IN COLORADO OR, AT SOME POINT, HAS
4 LIVED IN COLORADO FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS; AND

5 (c) HAS AN OUTSTANDING EDUCATION LOAN:

6 (I) THAT WAS INCURRED IN RELATION TO THE APPLICANT'S
7 ATTENDANCE AT AN ACCREDITED DOCTOR OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
8 SCHOOL LOCATED IN THE UNITED STATES;

9 (II) FOR WHICH THE APPLICANT IS NOT IN DEFAULT; AND

10 (III) THAT HAS NOT BEEN CONSOLIDATED WITH ANY LOANS
11 INCURRED BY A SPOUSE.

12 (3) AN APPLICANT SELECTED FOR LOAN REPAYMENT UNDER THE
13 PROGRAM:

14 (a) IS ELIGIBLE FOR AN AMOUNT:

15 (I) UP TO SEVENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS PURSUANT TO THE
16 MAXIMUM YEARLY REPAYMENT AMOUNTS SET FORTH IN SECTION
17 **23-31-1009**; AND

18 (II) THAT CORRELATES TO THE APPLICANT'S OUTSTANDING
19 VETERINARY EDUCATION LOANS;

20 (b) SHALL CONTRACT WITH THE COUNCIL TO PROVIDE VETERINARY
21 MEDICAL SERVICES IN ONE OR MORE DESIGNATED VETERINARY SHORTAGE
22 AREAS FOR A PERIOD UP TO FOUR YEARS.

23 (4) IN ESTABLISHING THE APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR
24 LOAN REPAYMENT UNDER THE PROGRAM, THE COUNCIL SHALL CONSIDER
25 THE FOLLOWING FACTORS WITH RESPECT TO THE APPLICANT'S
26 COMPATIBILITY WITH A DESIGNATED VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREA:

27 (a) AN APPLICANT'S TRAINING WITH RESPECT TO, ABILITY TO

1 PROVIDE, AND WILLINGNESS TO ENGAGE IN, FOOD ANIMAL VETERINARY
2 MEDICINE AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE DESIGNATED VETERINARY
3 SHORTAGE AREA NEEDS FOOD ANIMAL VETERINARY MEDICAL SERVICES;

4 (b) AN APPLICANT'S COMMITMENT TO PRACTICE VETERINARY
5 MEDICINE IN THE DESIGNATED VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREA;

6 (c) AN APPLICANT'S DATE OF AVAILABILITY TO PRACTICE
7 VETERINARY MEDICINE IN THE DESIGNATED VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREA;
8 AND

9 (d) AN APPLICANT'S COMPETENCE, AS DETERMINED BY THE STATE
10 BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE CREATED IN SECTION 12-64-105, AND
11 ABILITY TO FULFILL THE DUTIES IDENTIFIED IN THE APPLICATION.

12 (5) THE COUNCIL SHALL GIVE PRIORITY TO ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS
13 WHO:

14 (a) HAVE GRADUATED FROM COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY'S
15 COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES; AND

16 (b) WITH RESPECT TO A DESIGNATED VETERINARY SHORTAGE
17 AREA:

18 (I) HAVE LIVED IN THE VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREA OR A NEARBY
19 AREA;

20 (II) HAVE FAMILY IN THE VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREA OR A
21 NEARBY AREA; OR

22 (III) LIVE, OR HAVE LIVED, IN A SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR RURAL
23 AREA OF THE STATE.

24 **23-31-1007. Designated veterinary shortage areas - criteria.**

25 (1) IN DESIGNATING A COMMUNITY A VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREA, THE
26 COUNCIL SHALL CONSIDER:

27 (a) THE VETERINARY SERVICE NEEDS IDENTIFIED BY THE

1 COMMUNITY, GIVING PRIORITY TO COMMUNITIES THAT DEMONSTRATE THE
2 POTENTIAL FOR SIGNIFICANT NEGATIVE FOOD ANIMAL HEALTH IMPACTS
3 WITHIN COLORADO IF THEIR VETERINARY SERVICE NEEDS ARE NOT MET;

4 (b) THE NUMBER OF VETERINARIANS PRACTICING IN THE
5 COMMUNITY AND ITS SURROUNDING AREA;

6 (c) THE EXISTING ACCESS RESIDENTS OF THE COMMUNITY AND ITS
7 SURROUNDING AREAS HAVE TO VETERINARY SERVICES; AND

8 (d) THE DEGREE TO WHICH RESIDENTS OR LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS
9 SUPPORT THE ADDITION OF A VETERINARIAN WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.

10 (2) FOR COMMUNITIES THAT THE COUNCIL IDENTIFIES AS
11 VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREAS BASED ON THEIR DEMONSTRATED NEED
12 FOR VETERINARY SERVICES, THE COUNCIL, IN DESIGNATING WHICH
13 VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREAS TO MATCH WITH VETERINARIANS THROUGH
14 THE PROGRAM, SHALL PRIORITIZE THE VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREAS
15 BASED ON THEIR DEMONSTRATED LEVEL OF NEED FOR VETERINARY
16 SERVICES.

17 (3) IN EVALUATING A VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREA TO DETERMINE
18 WHETHER TO DESIGNATE THE VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREA FOR
19 PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM, THE COUNCIL MAY CONSULT WITH
20 PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTITIES AND VISIT THE VETERINARY SHORTAGE
21 AREA.

22 **23-31-1008. Release from contract obligation.** (1) THE
23 COUNCIL SHALL RELEASE A VETERINARIAN SELECTED FOR REPAYMENT
24 UNDER THE PROGRAM FROM HIS OR HER VETERINARY LOAN REPAYMENT
25 CONTRACT WITHOUT PENALTY IF:

26 (a) THE VETERINARIAN HAS COMPLETED THE SERVICE
27 REQUIREMENTS OF THE CONTRACT;

4 (c) THE VETERINARIAN DEMONSTRATES TO THE COUNCIL EXTREME
5 HARDSHIP OR OTHER GOOD CAUSE JUSTIFYING RELEASE FROM THE
6 CONTRACT; OR

7 (d) THE VETERINARIAN DIES.

8 (2) A DECISION BY THE COUNCIL NOT TO RELEASE A VETERINARIAN
9 FROM THE VETERINARIAN'S LOAN REPAYMENT CONTRACT WITHOUT
10 PENALTY IS A FINAL AGENCY ACTION THAT IS REVIEWABLE BY A DISTRICT
11 COURT.

12 **23-31-1009. Loan repayment.** (1) THE COUNCIL SHALL MAKE
13 ALL PAYMENTS UNDER THE PROGRAM ON A VETERINARIAN'S BEHALF TO
14 THE ISSUER OR PURCHASER OF THE VETERINARIAN'S STUDENT LOAN.

15 (2) AS REQUIRED BY A SELECTED VETERINARIAN'S CONTRACT
16 UNDER THE PROGRAM, THE VETERINARIAN IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE
17 FOLLOWING AMOUNTS OF LOAN REPAYMENT:

20 (b) UPON COMPLETION OF A SECOND YEAR OF SERVICE UNDER THE
21 PROGRAM, AN ADDITIONAL FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS;

22 (c) UPON COMPLETION OF A THIRD YEAR OF SERVICE UNDER THE
23 PROGRAM, AN ADDITIONAL TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS; AND

24 (d) UPON COMPLETION OF A FOURTH YEAR OF SERVICE UNDER THE
25 CONTRACT, AN ADDITIONAL TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS.

26 (3) A VETERINARIAN IS NOT ENTITLED TO RECEIVE MORE THAN
27 SEVENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS UNDER THE PROGRAM.

6 **23-31-1010. Veterinary education loan repayment fund -**
7 **creation - gifts, grants, and donations.** (1) THE VETERINARY
8 EDUCATION LOAN REPAYMENT FUND, REFERRED TO IN THIS PART **10** AS THE
9 "Fund", IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE FUND
10 CONSISTS OF MONEY CREDITED TO IT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5) OF
11 THIS SECTION AND ANY MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY
12 APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE FUND.

19 (4) MONEY IN THE FUND IS CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED TO THE
20 COUNCIL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM UNDER THIS PART 10.

26 (b) THE COUNCIL MAY CONTRACT WITH A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE
27 ENTITY AND MAY EXPEND MONEY AVAILABLE TO THE COUNCIL TO OBTAIN

1 MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS PART 10.

2 (c) IF AN ENTITY DESIRES TO PROVIDE A GIFT, GRANT, OR
3 DONATION OF MONEY TO THE COUNCIL FOR THE PLACEMENT OF A
4 VETERINARIAN IN A SPECIFIC VETERINARY SHORTAGE AREA, THE ENTITY
5 SHALL COMMIT TO PROVIDE THE FULL AMOUNT REQUIRED UNDER THE
6 PROGRAM FOR PLACEMENT OF A VETERINARIAN IN THAT VETERINARY
7 SHORTAGE AREA FOR FOUR YEARS.

8 (d) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION (5), "GIFTS, GRANTS, OR
9 DONATIONS" INCLUDE MONEY FROM AN ENDOWMENT.

10 (6) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-75-402 (2)(a) AND FOR
11 EACH FISCAL YEAR, THE ALTERNATIVE MAXIMUM RESERVE FOR THE FUND
12 IS THIRTY-THREE AND THREE-TENTHS PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT EXPENDED
13 FROM THE FUND DURING THE FISCAL YEAR.

14 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
15 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
16 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.