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**OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA
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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

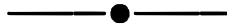
FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2001



ENROLLED

House Bill No. 2573

(By Delegates Douglas, Kuhn, Butcher,
Hatfield, Manchin, Prunty, Leggett)



Passed March 27, 2001

In Effect July 1, 2001

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H. B. 2573

(BY DELEGATES DOUGLAS, KUHN, BUTCHER,
HATFIELD, MANCHIN, PRUNTY AND LEGGETT)

[Passed March 27, 2001; in effect July 1, 2001.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section six, article sixteen, chapter eighteen-b of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended; and to further amend said article by adding thereto a new section, designated section six-b, relating to continuing the rural health advisory panel.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section six, article sixteen, chapter eighteen-b of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted; and that said article be further amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section six-b, all to read as follows:

ARTICLE 16. HEALTH CARE EDUCATION.

§18B-16-6. Creation of the West Virginia rural health advisory panel.

- 1 (a) The West Virginia rural health advisory panel is hereby
- 2 created and the rural health initiative advisory panel is hereby

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3 terminated as of the first day of July, one thousand nine
4 hundred ninety-five. The advisory panel, which shall be
5 appointed by the governor after consulting with the vice
6 chancellor, shall consist of one community representative from
7 each of the consortia of primary health care education sites; five
8 members shall be rural health care providers, two of whom
9 shall be representatives of rural health care facilities selected
10 from such lists as may be submitted by associations interested
11 or involved in the provision of rural health care, two of whom
12 shall be physicians engaged in the private practice of rural
13 medicine, and one of whom shall be an advanced nurse practi-
14 tioner or a nurse midwife with experience in rural health care
15 delivery; the dean or designee from each of the participating
16 health sciences schools, ex officio; one representative from
17 private colleges; one representative from the state college
18 system; one site coordinator; the commissioner of public health,
19 ex officio; and the director of the office of community and rural
20 health services, ex officio. Except for the ex officio members,
21 members of the panel shall serve for staggered three-year terms:
22 *Provided*, That one third of the initial appointments shall be
23 designated by the governor for one-year terms and one third of
24 the initial appointments shall be designated by the governor for
25 two-year terms.

26 Members of the advisory panel shall be reimbursed for the
27 cost of reasonable and necessary expenses actually incurred in
28 the performance of their duties: *Provided*, That members of the
29 panel who are employed by the state of West Virginia shall not
30 be reimbursed for their expenses under the provisions of this
31 section.

32 (b) The functions and duties of the panel are to recommend
33 policies and procedures to the vice chancellor related to the
34 rural health initiative and to oversee and coordinate implemen-
35 tation of those policies and procedures.

36 (c) The advisory panel has the power and the duty to
37 recommend rural health care facilities to be established as
38 primary health care education sites. Such recommendation shall

39 be made to the vice chancellor in accordance with the criteria
40 set forth in section seven of this article. After review of the
41 proposals submitted to the vice chancellor by the schools of
42 medicine pursuant to section eight of this article, the panel's
43 recommendation shall include an estimation of the costs to be
44 allocated per site from available funds in the university of West
45 Virginia health sciences account in the line item designated for
46 rural health initiative site support.

47 (d) The advisory panel shall adopt guidelines regarding the
48 application by rural health care facilities for selection as
49 primary health care education sites and shall approve an
50 application form which provides the panel with sufficient
51 information to consider the criteria set forth in section eight of
52 this article. The guidelines and application shall be sent by
53 registered mail to each rural health care facility in the state as
54 soon as practicable after the effective date of this section.

55 (e) The advisory panel shall provide an ongoing evaluation
56 of the rural health initiative and shall make the reports required
57 under this article.

58 (f) For purposes of addressing primary care physician and
59 other health care provider recruitment and retention efforts,
60 there is hereby created within the rural health advisory panel a
61 committee on recruitment and retention, which shall include
62 member representatives of health care providers, consumers,
63 members of the advisory panel and the health sciences schools.
64 All member representatives shall be selected by the vice
65 chancellor for health sciences in conjunction with the director
66 of the office of community and rural health. All operational
67 costs of the recruitment and retention committee shall be paid
68 by the rural health advisory panel.

69 (1) The recruitment and retention committee and the vice
70 chancellor of health sciences, in conjunction with the director
71 of the office of community and rural health services, may
72 facilitate statewide and interagency coordination of the recruit-
73 ment and retention of primary care physicians and other health
74 care related providers to serve the state of West Virginia.

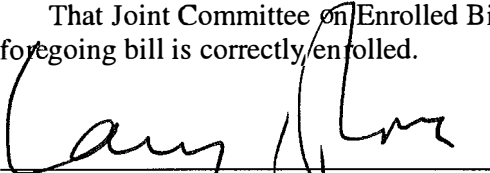
75 (2) Such responsibility for and coordination of primary care
76 physician recruitment and retention efforts shall include, but are
77 not limited to, working cooperatively with health care agencies
78 and economic development agencies of the state.

79 (3) As part of its duties, the recruitment and retention
80 committee shall provide by the thirty-first day of December,
81 one thousand nine hundred ninety-eight, and no less than
82 annually thereafter, a report of its findings to the legislative
83 oversight commission on education accountability and the
84 legislative oversight commission on health and human re-
85 sources accountability. The report shall address the success of
86 the state's primary care physician and other health care related
87 provider recruitment and retention efforts, recommendations for
88 improvements in all related areas of recruitment and retention
89 efforts, recommendations for statutory or regulatory changes,
90 as well as any other matters which the recruitment and retention
91 committee or the rural health advisory panel deems relevant to
92 carrying out the intent of this article.

§18B-16-6b. Termination of advisory panel.

1 The rural health advisory panel shall terminate on the first
2 day of July, two thousand four, pursuant to the provisions of
3 article ten, chapter four of this code, unless sooner terminated,
4 continued or reestablished pursuant to the provisions of that
5 article.

That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.



Chairman Senate Committee



Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.


In effect July 1, 2001.



Clerk of the Senate



Clerk of the House of Delegates



President of the Senate



Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 6th
day of April, 2001.



Governor

PRESENTED TO THE

GOVERNOR

Date 4/3/01

Time 9:00 am