

**By** the Committees on Appropriations; and Health Policy; and  
Senator Grimsley

576-04125-18

20181486c2

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to physician workforce development;  
3           amending s. 381.4018, F.S.; requiring the Department  
4           of Health to adopt any rules necessary to implement a  
5           specified federal program to further encourage  
6           qualified physicians to relocate to and practice in  
7           underserved areas; providing an effective date.  
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9   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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11           Section 1. Paragraph (f) of subsection (3) of section  
12   381.4018, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

13           381.4018 Physician workforce assessment and development.—

14           (3) GENERAL FUNCTIONS.—The department shall maximize the  
15   use of existing programs under the jurisdiction of the  
16   department and other state agencies and coordinate governmental  
17   and nongovernmental stakeholders and resources in order to  
18   develop a state strategic plan and assess the implementation of  
19   such strategic plan. In developing the state strategic plan, the  
20   department shall:

21           (f) Develop strategies to maximize federal and state  
22   programs that provide for the use of incentives to attract  
23   physicians to this state or retain physicians within the state.  
24   Such strategies should explore and maximize federal-state  
25   partnerships that provide incentives for physicians to practice  
26   in federally designated shortage areas. Strategies shall also  
27   consider the use of state programs, such as the Medical  
28   Education Reimbursement and Loan Repayment Program pursuant to  
29   s. 1009.65, which provide for education loan repayment or loan

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30 forgiveness and provide monetary incentives for physicians to  
31 relocate to underserved areas of the state. To further encourage  
32 qualified physicians to relocate to and practice in underserved  
33 areas, the department, following federal requirements, shall  
34 adopt any rules necessary for the implementation of the Conrad  
35 30 Waiver Program established under s. 214(1) of the Immigration  
36 and Nationality Act.

37 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.