BILL: HOUSE BILL NO. 257
SPONSOR: Representative Bentz
DESCRIPTION: AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE DELAWARE HEALTH CARE COMMISSION.

Assumptions:

1. This Act shall take effect following the signature of the Governor.

2. This Act seeks to amend Title 16 of the Delaware Code providing for the administration of a Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program.

3. This Act establishes a health care provider loan repayment plan for qualifying primary care physicians to be administered by the Delaware Health Care Commission. Under the terms of the program, the Health Care Commission would administer education loans to primary care clinicians of up to $50,000 per year for a minimum of 4 years.

4. The funding administered under the Health Care Provider State Sponsored State Loan Repayment Program will include awards to recipients with a 1:1 match from health care systems, marketing and outreach initiatives and the administrative infrastructure and support for implementation and data analysis.

5. Funding for this program is contingent upon an appropriation in the Fiscal Year 2021 Operating Budget. In consideration of the need to develop an administrative infrastructure and online application process, the Department of Health and Social Service anticipates a half year of funding in the first fiscal year. Timing will also allow for engagement between the Delaware Health Care Commission, health care systems and private medical practices.

Cost:

- Fiscal Year 2021: $500,000
- Fiscal Year 2022: $1,000,000
- Fiscal Year 2023: $1,000,000

Prepared by Victoria Brennan
Office of the Controller General