



Joint Subcommittee On Postsecondary Education Policy and Budget (PEPB)

60TH Montana Legislature

Room 110 Capitol Building * P.O. Box 201711 * Helena, MT 59620-1711 * (406) 444-2986 * FAX (406) 444-3036

SENATE MEMBERS
BOB HAWKS, CHAIRMAN
JIM PETERSON

HOUSE MEMBERS
ROBIN HAMILTON
BOB LAKE

BOARD OF REGENTS MEMBERS
STEPHEN BARRETT
CLAYTON CHRISTIAN

EXECUTIVE APPOINTEE
JAN LOMBARDI (Ex-Officio)

HJR 22 WORKING GROUP (DENTAL STUDY)

MEETING SUMMARY NOTES

Wednesday, December 12, 2007

The following is a brief written summary of the working group meeting and the major areas of focus and tasks ahead for the subsequent meetings. For complete audio minutes, please see the website for the PEPB at http://leg.mt.gov/css/fiscal/PEPB_Subcommittee.asp where there is a link to the HJR 22 audio minutes for the December 12, 2007 meeting.

The working group tasked staff with additional research and information on the following topics, which appear in no particular order:

1. Regional Initiatives in Dental Education (RIDE)

- Seek additional data that may document the underlying philosophy of RIDE that it would result in an increase of dental practitioners in Montana
- Gather data and report on the status of the University of Washington RIDE program that is in the start-up phase in Spokane, WA
- Inquire about the extent of community-based support for the RIDE program among the dental community

2. Increase Student Slots for the WICHE Dental and MN Dental Programs

- Project the costs for additional slots in the 2011 biennium
- Drill down on the return rate data in an attempt to identify trends, reasons, or best-practices that influence return rates in these or similar programs
- Gather information about a similar program at Creighton University that is being utilized in Idaho and Wyoming
- Gather information about a similar program in the state of Oregon

3. Student Loan Payback Program for Dentists...model similar to the MR PIP program

- Project costs for a dental student loan payback program
- Identify funding options and challenges to creating such a program
- Identify administrative requirements
- Conduct a brief economic analysis of establishing a dental practice
- Community Service Payback Options (e.g. Community Health Centers)

4. State Income Tax Credits/Deductions Options

- Project costs of tax credit program options (how many dentists...how many with student loan debt)
 1. Identify options from other states that may be viable in Montana (not require complex legislation)
- Analyze the history of the physicians income tax credit program in Montana
- Gather data about other professions that have tax deduction options

5. Community Health Center Dental Clinics

- Are there options to expand access through these clinics
- Are there options to expand access through federal clinics
- Are there options for creative local partnerships to create new clinics

6. Support a Residency Program for General Dentistry in Montana

- Look into accreditation options that may exist with the University of Washington
- Identify a potential model for this in Montana
- Project costs for such a model...start-up and ongoing costs

7. Repayment/Clawback Provisions and Options

- Research additional data, with focus on WICHE states, on the effectiveness and impacts of repayment/clawback provisions on professional student programs and return rates
- Consider the diversity of programs in this area by looking at a number of state specifics
- How do states use the funding that is “clawed-back” (to expand return program options?)

Notes Prepared by:

Alan Peura
Legislative Fiscal Analyst II
Montana Legislative Fiscal Division

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 12, 2008 @ 9:00 am in Capitol Hearing Room 102
Wednesday, June 11, 2008 @ 9:00 am in Capitol Hearing Room 102