



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6235

January Session, 2021



AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE "LEARN HERE, HEAL HERE" PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) The Commissioner of
2 Economic and Community Development, in consultation with the
3 Commissioner of Revenue Services, shall establish the Learn Here, Heal
4 Here program. Such program may provide an incentive for persons
5 licensed to practice psychiatry pursuant to the provisions of chapter 370
6 of the general statutes to buy a first home in the state. Persons who (1)
7 graduate on or after January 1, 2022, from a medical school located in
8 the United States or Canada accredited by the Liaison Committee on
9 Medical Education, (2) are licensed to practice psychiatry pursuant to
10 the provisions of chapter 370 of the general statutes, and (3) accept
11 patients who receive health care coverage through any medical
12 insurance plan, including, but not limited to, the HUSKY Health
13 program, may apply to the Commissioner of Economic and Community
14 Development, in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner,
15 to have their income tax liability, up to a maximum of two thousand five
16 hundred dollars annually, segregated into the Learn Here, Heal Here
17 homebuyers account established pursuant to section 3 of this act,
18 provided, in any calendar year, not more than (A) one million dollars
19 from all program participants may be so segregated, and (B) forty

20 persons may be accepted as new program participants. After a period
21 not exceeding ten years after graduation from medical school, any
22 amounts so segregated may be withdrawn by a participant for the
23 purchase of a first home in the state. The Commissioner of Economic
24 and Community Development shall make payments in accordance with
25 this section from said account to the participants.

26 (b) (1) After a period not exceeding ten years after the date of
27 graduation from medical school, a participant in the program
28 established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section may apply to the
29 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development for a
30 payment to be issued, on behalf of such participant, and used as the
31 down payment on a house, which shall be the first house such
32 participant has bought, either singly or with any other person. Such
33 payment may be in an amount equal to the amount of segregated funds
34 deposited on behalf of such participant. If the payment is less than such
35 amount, any excess amount shall be deposited in the General Fund.

36 (2) If a participant in the program established pursuant to subsection
37 (a) of this section moves out of the state at any time up to one year after
38 the date on which the Commissioner of Economic and Community
39 Development issued the payment to the participant, such participant
40 shall repay one hundred per cent of the amount paid on behalf of such
41 participant. If a participant moves out of the state at any time up to two
42 years after such payment, such participant shall repay eighty per cent of
43 the amount paid on behalf of such participant. If a participant moves
44 out of the state at any time up to three years after such payment, such
45 participant shall repay sixty per cent of the amount paid on behalf of
46 such participant. If a participant moves out of the state at any time up
47 to four years after such payment, such participant shall repay forty per
48 cent of the amount paid on behalf of such participant. If a participant
49 moves out of the state at any time up to five years after such payment,
50 such participant shall repay twenty per cent of the amount paid on
51 behalf of such participant. After five years, there is no repayment
52 obligation. Any amounts repaid under this subdivision shall be

53 deposited in the General Fund. The commissioner shall file a lien against
54 the title of the property purchased by the participant in the amount of
55 the payment issued by the commissioner on the date of such purchase
56 to secure the repayment of the amounts required pursuant to this
57 subdivision. The lien filed by the commissioner shall take precedence
58 over any subsequent transfer or encumbrances recorded against the title
59 of the property, including any mortgage lien filed contemporaneously
60 with the commissioner's lien, and shall expire after a period of not less
61 than five years from the participant's purchase of the property.

62 (c) On or before December 1, 2021, the Commissioner of Economic
63 and Community Development shall develop, within available
64 appropriations, a public education program to educate recent graduates
65 of any medical school located in the United States or Canada accredited
66 by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education about the program
67 established under subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section for
68 first-time home buyers. The department shall begin to implement such
69 education program not later than January 1, 2022.

70 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) As part of the Learn Here, Heal
71 Here program established pursuant to section 1 of this act, for taxable
72 years commencing on or after January 1, 2022, the Commissioner of
73 Revenue Services shall segregate the income taxes paid by a participant
74 in said program during a period not exceeding ten taxable years
75 following the year of such participant's graduation from medical school.
76 Upon the request of such participant, the commissioner shall segregate
77 an annual amount of such tax liability, up to a maximum of two
78 thousand five hundred dollars per year. The total amount segregated
79 for all program participants shall not exceed one million dollars for each
80 program in any calendar year. The commissioner shall deposit such
81 segregated amounts into the Learn Here, Heal Here homebuyers
82 account established pursuant to section 3 of this act.

83 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) There is established a Learn Here,
84 Heal Here homebuyers account which shall be a separate, nonlapsing
85 account within the General Fund. Funds segregated by the

86 Commissioner of Revenue Services, pursuant to section 2 of this act,
87 shall be deposited in the account. An amount equal to the amount
88 deposited in the account shall be available to the Commissioner of
89 Economic and Community Development for payments to participants
90 in the program established pursuant to section 1 of this act. The State
91 Treasurer shall invest the proceeds of the account, and investment
92 earnings, after paying any costs incurred by the State Treasurer in
93 administering the account, shall be credited to the General Fund. On or
94 before September 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the State Treasurer
95 shall notify the Commissioner of Economic and Community
96 Development of the total amount deposited in the account. Any funds
97 segregated on behalf of a participant that are not used for the purchase
98 of a first home shall be transferred to the General Fund.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(b)(1), "jointly" was changed to "with any other person" for accuracy and in Section 1(b)(2), "ceases to live" was changed to "moves out of" and "paid out" was changed to "paid on behalf of such participant" for clarity and accuracy.

HED *Joint Favorable Subst.*