

Amendment to SB 244-FN-A

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

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3 AN ACT relative to expanding access to primary health care services, increasing the size of
4 the health care workforce, and making appropriations therefor.

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6 Amend the bill by replacing all after section 2 with the following:

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8 3 Department of Health and Human Services; Division of Public Health Services; Public-Private
9 Health Care Workforce Recruitment and Retention Hub; Infrastructure Contracts.

10 I. The department of health and human services, division of public health services, rural
11 health and primary care section shall amend its current contract with Bi-State Primary Care
12 Association's Recruitment Center to require the Recruitment Center to strengthen the infrastructure
13 needed to sustain and transform community-based primary care services through the creation of a
14 Public-Private Health Care Workforce Recruitment and Retention Hub that promotes collaboration
15 across the continuum of care. Bi-State Primary Care Association shall administer the Public-Private
16 Health Care Workforce Recruitment and Retention Hub and manage the sub-recipient contracts,
17 and leverage federal, state, and private funding, and seek new funding opportunities when
18 appropriate.

19 II. Bi-State Primary Care Association shall design the sub-recipient contracts to facilitate
20 health care workforce development, recruitment, retention, support nursing preceptor and
21 mentoring programs, provide training and technical assistance, and loan repayment opportunities.
22 Bi-State Primary Care Association shall:

23 (a) Expand and implement its national outreach and marketing campaign designed to
24 recruit qualified clinicians to New Hampshire;

25 (b) Collaborate with an area health education center for the purpose of creating and
26 expanding graduate level nursing mentoring and precepting programs. The area health education
27 center shall provide the necessary support to graduate level nursing preceptors and the health care
28 organizations that act as training sites;

29 (c) Collaborate with an area health education center for the purpose of supporting the
30 New Hampshire Needs Caregivers Program. This program shall promote, recruit, and fund training
31 of up to 500 individuals interested in a career in health care as a licensed nursing assistant. The
32 New Hampshire Needs Caregivers Program shall create scholarship opportunities to cover the cost

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1 of tuition for licensed nursing assistant training up to \$2,600; supportive services; and assist
2 individuals in finding courses and employment;

3 (d) Expand student loan repayment opportunities for clinicians with bachelors' degrees
4 employed by non-profit health care organizations in exchange for the agreement to work for the non-
5 profit health care organization for 24 months for part-time employees to 36 months for full-time
6 employees; and

7 (e) Collaborate with a family medicine residency program in rural New Hampshire at a
8 teaching health center program to support the training of family medicine residents in the north
9 country. The teaching health center program shall be accredited or eligible for accreditation by a
10 nationally recognized accreditation agency.

11 4 Department of Health and Human Services; Rural Health and Primary Care Section;
12 Appropriations.

13 I. Appropriation; Public-Private Health Care Workforce Recruitment and Retention Hub.
14 The sum of \$580,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 and the sum of \$580,000 for the fiscal
15 year ending June 30, 2027 are hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services,
16 division of public health services, rural health and primary care section for the purpose set forth in
17 paragraph I of section 3 of this act. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out
18 of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

19 II. Appropriation; Workforce Recruitment, Advertising, and Marketing. The sum of
20 \$250,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 and \$250,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30,
21 2027 are hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services, division of public
22 health services, rural health and primary care section for the purpose described in paragraph II(a) of
23 section 3 of this act. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in
24 the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

25 III. Appropriation; Bi-State Primary Care Association Sub-Recipient Contract with an Area
26 Health Education Center; Graduate Nursing Student Preceptors and Financial Support for Host
27 Organizations. The sum of \$300,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 and the sum of
28 \$300,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 are hereby appropriated to the department of
29 health and human services, division of public health services, rural health and primary care section
30 for the purpose set forth in paragraph II(b) of section 3 of this act. The governor is authorized to
31 draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

32 IV. Appropriation; Bi-State Primary Care Association sub-recipient contract with an area
33 health education center; New Hampshire Needs Caregivers. The sum of \$500,000 for the fiscal year
34 ending June 30, 2026 and the sum of \$750,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 are hereby
35 appropriated to the department of health and human services, division of public health services,
36 rural health and primary care section for the purpose set forth in paragraph II(c) of section 3 of this

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1 act. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury
2 not otherwise appropriated.

3 V. Appropriation; Bi-State Primary Care Association sub-recipient contracts; Public-Private
4 Health Care Workforce Recruitment and Retention Hub Loan Repayment Programs. The sum of
5 \$300,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 and the sum of \$300,000 for the fiscal year ending
6 June 30, 2027 are hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services, division of
7 public health services, rural health and primary care section for the purpose set forth in paragraph
8 II(d) of section 3 of this act. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any
9 money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

10 VI. Appropriation; Bi-State Primary Care Association sub-recipient contract with a rural
11 residency training at a teaching health center program. The sum of \$500,000 for the fiscal year
12 ending June 30, 2026 and the sum of \$500,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 are hereby
13 appropriated to the department of health and human services, division of public health services,
14 rural health and primary care section for the purposes set forth in paragraph II(e) of section 3 of this
15 act. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not
16 otherwise appropriated.

17 VII. Appropriation; Early Childhood and Family Mental Health Credential. The sum of
18 \$203,500 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 and the sum of \$203,500 for the fiscal year ending
19 June 30, 2027 are hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services, bureau of
20 children's behavioral health for the purpose set forth in RSA 167:3-1, IV(a)(2). The bureau shall use
21 the funding to support the training of up to 60 clinicians per year of the biennium. The governor is
22 authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury not otherwise
23 appropriated.

24 VIII. Appropriation; Primary Care Workforce Program. The sum of \$115,000 for the fiscal
25 year ending June 30, 2026 and the sum of \$115,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 are
26 hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services, division of public health
27 services, rural health and primary care section, for an administrator I position for the purpose of
28 administering paragraph I of section 3 of this act. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for
29 said sums out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

30 5 Department of Health and Human Services; Medicaid Rates Paid to Opioid Treatment
31 Providers; Appropriation.

32 There is hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services the sum of
33 \$2,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 and the sum of \$2,000,000 for the fiscal year
34 ending June 30, 2027, for the purpose of increasing rates paid to providers of opioid treatment
35 programs. Said amounts are intended to cover the cost of rate increases for both the traditional
36 Medicaid population and granite advantage program population. The department may accept and
37 expend any federal funds available for the purposes of this section without the prior approval of the

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- 1 fiscal committee of the general court. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums
- 2 out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.
- 3 6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

2025-0776s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill expands access to primary health care services by directing the department of health and human services to amend its contract with the Bi-State Primary Care Association's Recruitment Center in order to expand health care workforce recruitment and retention efforts and increases funding for such programs. The bill also makes an appropriation to the department of health and human services to increase Medicaid reimbursement rates for opioid treatment providers.