



FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 57

Committee: Ways and Means Education

Sponsor: Senator April Weaver

Analyst: Tiffany Weaver

Date: 05/09/2023

Senate Bill 57 as passed the Senate would establish the Alabama Loan Repayment Program for Nursing Education, to be administered by the Alabama Board of Nursing and funded by direct appropriation from the Education Trust Fund, to award loans to certain students who agree to work in a prelicense nursing education program in the state.

Regarding this program, this bill would provide: (1) that the Board may award three-year loans for recipients pursuing a master degree and four-year loans for recipients pursuing a doctorate degree; (2) the maximum annual loan amounts for the first year of the program may not exceed \$15,000 but may be increased annually by no more than 5%; (3) for terms of loan repayment and penalties for non-fulfillment of loan contracts; and (4) for the repeal of the program on September 30, 2029, unless extended by an act of the Legislature.

This bill would increase the administrative obligations of the Board to: (1) administer the loan repayment program, including the adoption of rules for the program; (2) produce an annual report on the program; and (3) to consult with the Alabama Commission on Evaluation Services (ACES) to develop performance metrics data and other measures of success to include in the annual report required pursuant to this bill. This bill would also increase the administrative obligations of ACES to evaluate the program in Fiscal Year 2028.