DIGEST

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HB 280 Original

2019 Regular Session

McFarland

Abstract: Authorizes an income tax credit equal to the lesser of the taxpayer's tax liability or \$3,600 for a maximum of five years for physician assistants who practice in rural areas.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes an income tax credit in an amount equal to the lesser of the taxpayer's tax liability or \$3,600 per taxable year for a licensed medical physician or primary care nurse practitioner who has their primary office in a rural area which is designated as a health professional shortage area (HPSA) by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services. Further requires primary care health professionals to practice for not less than three years and accept Medicaid and Medicare payments for services. The tax credit is available for only one relocation and only for a maximum of five years.

<u>Present law</u> limits the total amount of credits granted by the Dept. of Revenue (DOR) in a calendar year to \$1.5 million. Further prohibits DOR from certifying applications for the credit on or after Jan. 1, 2021.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> but adds licensed primary care physician assistants who establish a primary office of their practice within a primary care high-needs geographic HPSA to the list of primary care health professionals eligible for the credit.

Effective Jan. 1, 2020.

(Amends R.S. 47:297(H)(2)(a), (d), and (e) and (H)(3); Adds R.S. 47:297(H)(2)(f))