

HB 2881 -- FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HEALTH PROFESSION STUDENTS

SPONSOR: Patterson

This bill expands the pool of eligible students that may apply to the Department of Health and Senior Services for a student loan under Chapter 191, RSMo, from students pursuing a degree of doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathy to now include students seeking a degree in the area of psychiatry, a degree of doctor of dental surgery or dental medicine, or a bachelor of science degree in dental hygiene and provides that all eligible students must be residents of the state. The cap for a loan to an eligible student shall also be raised from \$7,500 to \$25,000 for each academic year.

This bill also raises the amount of financial assistance available to qualified applicants through the nursing student loan program under Chapter 335 from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for a student of a professional nursing program and from \$2,500 to \$5,000 for a student of a practical nursing program.