



May 3, 2023

*Megan Williams, DNP,
FNP-C, FAANP
Interim CEO*

The Honorable Nicole Poore
411 Legislative Ave.
Dover, DE 19901

RE: Support for Senate 98, Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program

Dear Senator Poore,

*Nemours Children's
Health
Mark Mumford,
Executive Vice President
Chief Executive,
Nemours Delaware
Valley Operations*

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 98. The Delaware Healthcare Association supports this bill.

*Bayhealth
Terry Murphy,
President & CEO*

SB 98 expands and strengthens the Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program that was first created in 2021 to attract more primary care providers to Delaware. Importantly, SB 98 allows providers more time after graduation to apply for the program and also adds dental clinicians and additional behavioral health care professionals to the list of providers eligible for the program.

*Beebe Healthcare
David A. Tam,
MD, MBA,
President & CEO*

Delaware, like the rest of the nation has a shortage of behavioral health care providers. While the original program already included physician, PA and nurse practitioner-level behavioral health providers, SB 98 recognizes that the majority of behavioral health providers do not meet that criteria. SB 98 rightly adds additional categories of behavioral health providers (those with a PhD Doctor of Psychology, Licensed Professional Counselors of Mental Health, Masters of Psychology, and Licensed Clinical Social Workers) to those eligible for the program. This will be critical to bringing more behavioral health providers to Delaware to meet our growing needs.

*ChristianaCare
Janice E. Nevin,
MD, MPH
President & CEO*

*TidalHealth Nanticoke
Penny Short, MSM, BSN,
RN
President & CEO*

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment. DHA supports SB 98 and looks forward to working with you and the members of the General Assembly to advance this important legislation.

*Saint Francis Hospital
Christopher Cullom,
MSHA, MBA
President, Saint Francis
Hospital*

*Delaware Healthcare
Association
Megan Williams, DNP,
FNP-C, FAANP
Interim CEO*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Megan Williams'.

Megan Williams, DNP, FNP-C, FAANP
Interim CEO

DHA represents hospitals and health care delivery systems in Delaware and provides policy and advocacy leadership in creating an excellent environment to support our members in helping every Delawarean to be as healthy as they can be.