

SENATE AMENDMENT

Bill No. CS/CS/HBs 63 & 77 and 891, 995, 2009 and 2135, 2nd Eng.
Amendment No.

	<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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11	Senator Cowin moved the following amendment:		
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13	Senate Amendment (with title amendment)		
14	On page 144, between lines 16 and 17,		
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16	insert:		
17	Section 65. Paragraphs (a) and (e) of subsection (3)		
18	of section 240.4063, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:		
19	240.4063 Florida Teacher Scholarship and Forgivable		
20	Loan Program.--		
21	(3)(a) Within the Florida Teacher Scholarship and		
22	Forgivable Loan Program shall be established the Florida		
23	Critical Teacher Shortage Forgivable Loan Program which shall		
24	make undergraduate and graduate forgivable loans available to		
25	eligible students entering programs of study that lead to a		
26	degree in a teaching program in a critical teacher shortage		
27	area. To be eligible for a program loan, a candidate shall:		
28	1. Be a full-time student at the upper-division		
29	undergraduate or graduate level in a teacher training program		
30	approved by the department pursuant to s. 240.529 leading to		
31	certification in a critical teacher shortage subject area.		

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1 2. Have declared an intent to teach, for at least the
2 number of years for which a forgivable loan is received, in
3 publicly funded public elementary or secondary schools of
4 Florida in a critical teacher shortage area identified by the
5 State Board of Education. For purposes of this subsection a
6 school is publicly funded if it receives at least 75 percent
7 of its operating costs from governmental agencies and operates
8 its educational program under contract with a public school
9 district or the Department of Education.

10 3. Meet the general requirements for student
11 eligibility as provided in s. 240.404, except as otherwise
12 provided in this section.

13 4. If applying for an undergraduate forgivable loan,
14 have maintained a minimum cumulative grade point average of
15 2.5 on a 4.0 scale for all undergraduate work. Renewal
16 applicants for undergraduate loans shall maintain a minimum
17 cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.5 on a 4.0
18 scale for all undergraduate work and have earned at least 12
19 semester credits per term, or the equivalent.

20 5. If applying for a graduate forgivable loan, have
21 maintained an undergraduate cumulative grade point average of
22 at least a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or have attained a Graduate
23 Record Examination score of at least 1,000. Renewal applicants
24 for graduate loans shall maintain a minimum cumulative grade
25 point average of at least a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for all
26 graduate work and have earned at least 9 semester credits per
27 term, or the equivalent.

28 (e) The State Board of Education shall adopt by rule
29 repayment schedules and applicable interest rates under ss.
30 240.451 and 240.465. A forgivable loan must be repaid within
31 10 years of completion of a program of studies.

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1 1. Credit for repayment of an undergraduate or
2 graduate forgivable loan shall be in an amount not to exceed
3 \$4,000 in loan principal plus applicable accrued interest for
4 each full year of eligible teaching service. However, credit
5 in an amount not to exceed \$8,000 in loan principal plus
6 applicable accrued interest shall be given for each full year
7 of eligible teaching service completed at a high-density,
8 low-economic urban school or at a low-density, low-economic
9 rural school, as identified by the State Board of Education.

10 2. Any forgivable loan recipient who fails to teach in
11 a publicly funded ~~public~~ elementary or secondary school in
12 this state as specified in this subsection is responsible for
13 repaying the loan plus accrued interest at 8 percent annually.

14 3. Forgivable loan recipients may receive loan
15 repayment credit for teaching service rendered at any time
16 during the scheduled repayment period. However, such repayment
17 credit shall be applicable only to the current principal and
18 accrued interest balance that remains at the time the
19 repayment credit is earned. No loan recipient shall be
20 reimbursed for previous cash payments of principal and
21 interest.

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23 (Redesignate subsequent sections.)

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25
26 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

27 And the title is amended as follows:

28 On page 11, line 21, following the semicolon

29
30 insert:

31 amending s. 240.4063, F.S.; defining the term

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1 "publicly funded schools";
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