

Bill No. SB 190

Barcode 880544

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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The Committee on Judiciary (Aronberg) recommended the following amendment:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause

and insert:

Section 1. Section 43.201, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

43.201 Justice Administrative Commission; student loan program; administration.--

(1) The commission shall administer a student loan program for eligible career attorneys. The purpose of the program is to provide financial assistance to eligible career attorneys who receive eligible student loans.

(2) As used in this section, the term "eligible student loan" means a loan that was issued pursuant to the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, to an eligible career attorney to fund his or her law school education.

(3) As used in this section, the term "eligible career attorney" means an assistant state attorney, assistant public

Bill No. SB 190

Barcode 880544

1 defender, assistant attorney general, or assistant statewide
2 prosecutor who has been employed in that capacity for 3 years
3 of continuous service on his or her employment anniversary
4 date.

5 (4) The program shall be administered in the following
6 manner:

7 (a) After an individual has completed 3 years of
8 continuous service, an affidavit of certification on a form
9 approved by the commission shall be submitted to the state
10 attorney's office, public defender's office, Office of the
11 Attorney General, or Office of the Statewide Prosecutor, as
12 appropriate. The affidavit of certification shall, upon
13 approval of the state attorney, public defender, Attorney
14 General, or Statewide Prosecutor, be submitted to the
15 commission.

16 (b) Upon receipt of the certificate, the commission
17 shall begin yearly payments in the amount of \$3,000 to the
18 lender that services the eligible student loan. These payments
19 shall be made for the benefit of the eligible career attorney
20 named in the certificate and for the purpose of satisfying the
21 eligible student loan obligation.

22 (c) Upon an individual's completion of 6 years of
23 continuous service, the yearly loan assistance payment amount
24 shall increase to \$5,000. Upon an individual's completion of
25 13 years of continuous service or upon full satisfaction of
26 the eligible student loan obligation, whichever occurs first,
27 loan assistance payments shall cease. The total amount of loan
28 assistance payments permitted under the program for any one
29 eligible career attorney may not exceed \$44,000.

30 (5) The program shall be funded annually by an
31 appropriation from the General Revenue Fund to the Justice

Bill No. SB 190

Barcode 880544

1 Administrative Commission. Funds shall be made available under
2 the program on a first-come, first-served basis.

3 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

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6 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

7 And the title is amended as follows:

8 Delete everything before the enacting clause

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10 and insert: An act relating to student loans; creating s.
11 43.201, F.S.; providing for a financial assistance program
12 administered by the Justice Administrative Commission to
13 provide assistance to qualified assistant state attorneys,
14 assistant public defenders, assistant attorneys general, and
15 assistant statewide prosecutors for the repayment of eligible
16 student loans; defining terms; providing the elements of the
17 program; providing for funding; providing an effective date.

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