Florida Senate - 2005

By Senator Campbell

32-221-05 1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to student loans; creating s. 3 43.201, F.S.; providing for a financial 4 assistance program administered by the Justice 5 Administrative Commission to provide assistance б to qualified assistant state attorneys and 7 assistant public defenders for the repayment of 8 eligible student loans; defining the term 9 "eligible student loan"; providing the elements 10 of the program; providing for funding; providing an effective date. 11 12 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 14 Section 1. Section 43.201, Florida Statutes, is 15 created to read: 16 17 43.201 Justice Administrative Commission; student loan 18 program; administration. --(1) The commission shall administer a student loan 19 program for career assistant state attorneys and assistant 20 21 public defenders as described in chapter 27. The purpose of the program is to provide financial assistance to assistant 22 23 state attorneys and assistant public defenders who receive eligible student loans. 2.4 (2) As used in this section, the term "eligible 25 student loan" means a loan that was issued pursuant to the 26 27 Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, to an assistant 2.8 state attorney or an assistant public defender to fund his or her law school education. 29 30 (3) The program shall be administered in the following manner: 31

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

Florida Senate - 2005 32-221-05

1 (a) An assistant state attorney or an assistant public 2 defender is not eligible for assistance under the program until the assistant state attorney or assistant public 3 4 defender has been employed as an assistant state attorney or an assistant public defender for 3 years of continuous service 5 6 on his or her employment anniversary date. 7 (b) After an individual has completed 3 years of continuous service, an affidavit of certification on a form 8 9 approved by the commission shall be submitted to the state 10 attorney's office or the public defender's office, as appropriate. The affidavit of certification shall, upon 11 12 approval of the state attorney or the public defender, be 13 submitted to the commission. (c) Upon receipt of the certificate, the commission 14 shall begin yearly payments in the amount of \$3,000 to the 15 lender that services the eligible student loan. These payments 16 17 shall be made for the benefit of the qualified assistant state 18 attorney or assistant public defender named in the certificate and for the purpose of satisfying the eligible student loan 19 20 obligation. 21 (d) Upon an individual's completion of 6 years of continuous service, the yearly loan assistance payment amount 2.2 23 shall increase to \$5,000. Upon an individual's completion of 13 years of continuous service or upon full satisfaction of 2.4 the eligible student loan obligation, whichever occurs first, 25 loan assistance payments shall cease. The total amount of loan 26 27 assistance payments permitted under the program for any one 2.8 assistant state attorney or assistant public defender may not exceed \$44,000. 29 30 31

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

Florida Senate - 2005 32-221-05

SB 190

1	(4) The program shall be funded annually by an
2	appropriation from the General Revenue Fund to the Justice
3	Administrative Commission.
4	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.
5	
6	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
7	SENATE SUMMARY
8	Creates a program that provides financial aid to an assistant state attorney or assistant public defender by
9	helping fulfill his or her eligible student loan obligations. After 3 consecutive years of service by the
10	assistant state attorney or assistant public defender, the lender receives \$3,000 annually. After 6 years of
11	consecutive service, his or her lender will receive \$6,000 annually. Loan assistance to the assistant state
12	attorney or assistant public defender ends after 13 years of consecutive service or when the student loan
13	obligation is satisfied, which ever occurs first. The total loan assistant permitted for any one assistant
14	state attorney or assistant public defender may not exceed \$44,000.
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	
31	

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.