

By Senator Smith

14-1491-06

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to nursing recruitment;
3 amending s. 1009.66, F.S.; increasing the
4 amount of a loan that is eligible for repayment
5 under the Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness
6 Program; increasing the amount of the loan
7 principal which the Department of Health may
8 repay for selected graduates of a nursing
9 program; amending s. 1009.67, F.S.; increasing
10 the amounts of nursing scholarships awarded by
11 the department; providing an effective date.

12
13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

14
15 Section 1. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 1009.66,
16 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

17 1009.66 Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program.--

18 (3) Only loans to pay the costs of tuition, books, and
19 living expenses shall be covered, at an amount not to exceed
20 ~~\$7,000~~\$4,000 for each year of education toward the degree
21 obtained.

22 (4) From the funds available, the Department of Health
23 may make loan principal repayments of up to ~~\$7,000~~\$4,000 a
24 year for up to 4 years on behalf of selected graduates of an
25 accredited or approved nursing program. All repayments shall
26 be contingent upon continued proof of employment in the
27 designated facilities in this state and shall be made directly
28 to the holder of the loan. The state does not ~~shall~~ bear any
29 ~~no~~ responsibility for the collection of any interest charges
30 or other remaining balance. ~~If in the event that~~ the
31 designated facilities are changed, a nurse shall continue to

1 | be eligible for loan forgiveness as long as he or she
2 | continues to work in the facility for which the original loan
3 | repayment was made and otherwise meets all conditions of
4 | eligibility.

5 | Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 1009.67, Florida
6 | Statutes, is amended to read:

7 | 1009.67 Nursing scholarship program.--

8 | (3) A scholarship may be awarded for no more than 2
9 | years, in an amount not to exceed~~\$10,000~~\$8,000 per year.

10 | However, registered nurses pursuing a graduate degree for a
11 | faculty position or to practice as an advanced registered
12 | nurse practitioner may receive up to~~\$15,000~~\$12,000 per year.

13 | These amounts shall be adjusted by the amount of increase or
14 | decrease in the consumer price index for urban consumers
15 | published by the United States Department of Commerce.

16 | Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

17 |

18 | *****

19 | SENATE SUMMARY

20 | Increases the amount of loans eligible for repayment and
21 | used to pay certain costs of education in obtaining a
22 | nursing degree. Increases the amount of the
23 | loan-principal repayments that the Department of Health
24 | may make for selected graduates of a nursing program.
25 | Increases the amounts of nursing scholarships awarded by
26 | the department.

24 |

25 |

26 |

27 |

28 |

29 |

30 |

31 |