



2005 ASSEMBLY BILL 1096

March 6, 2006 - Introduced by Representatives TOWNS, LOEFFELHOLZ, KAUFERT, DAVIS, NASS, MUSSER, MONTGOMERY, AINSWORTH, KRAWCZYK, BIES, MURSAU, VAN ROY, POPE-ROBERTS, ALBERS, OTT, HAHN, HINES and GUNDERSON, cosponsored by Senator LASSA. Referred to Committee on Colleges and Universities.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 118.192 (2); and **to create** 20.235 (1) (cd), 20.235 (1) (cp),
2 39.396 and 39.397 of the statutes; **relating to:** a loan program for students
3 studying for a license to teach who agree to teach in school districts with
4 populations of less than 10,000, a loan program for residents of this state
5 studying for a license or permit to teach mathematics or science, requiring the
6 exercise of rule-making authority, and making appropriations.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB) administers various student loan programs under which certain percentages of the loans are forgiven for each year that a loan recipient is employed in certain professions after the completion of the recipient's program of study. Those programs include a program under which loans are forgiven after the recipient has been employed in this state as a nurse, a program under which loans are forgiven after the recipient has been employed as a teacher in the Milwaukee Public Schools, a program under which loans are forgiven after the recipient has been employed in this state as a teacher of visually impaired pupils or as an orientation and mobility instructor, and a program under which loans are forgiven after the recipient has been employed as a teacher in a school district in this state in which minority students constitute at least 29 percent of the membership of the school district.

This bill creates a loan program, to be administered by HEAB, for students who are registered as juniors or seniors, or who hold a bachelor's degree and are

ASSEMBLY BILL 1096

registered as special students, in the University of Wisconsin System or in an accredited, private institution of higher education located in this state; who are enrolled in programs of study leading to a license to teach and who are not currently licensed as teachers; who meet academic criteria specified by HEAB; and who agree to teach in school districts in this state that have populations of less than 10,000. The maximum amount of a loan that a person may receive during any fiscal year is \$2,500 and the maximum amount that a person may receive under the program is \$5,000. Under the bill, HEAB must forgive 25 percent of a loan's principal and interest for each school year that a recipient teaches in a school district that, as of the first day of the first school year for which the loan is forgiven, has a population of less than 10,000.

The bill also creates a loan program, to be administered by HEAB, to defray the cost of: 1) tuition, fees, and expenses for residents of this state who are enrolled in a program of study in the University of Wisconsin System or in an accredited, private institution of higher education leading to a license to teach mathematics or science, who meet academic criteria specified by the board, and who agree to teach mathematics or science in a school district located in this state; and 2) tuition and fees for residents of this state who are enrolled in an alternative teacher training program leading to a permit to teach mathematics or science, who meet academic criteria specified by HEAB, and who agree to teach mathematics or science in a school district located in this state.

For purposes of this loan program, an alternative teacher training program is a program established by the state superintendent of public instruction under which an individual who holds a bachelor's degree in engineering, music, art, a foreign language, computer science, mathematics, or science, who has had at least five years of professional experience in one of those subject areas, and who demonstrates competency in his or her subject area may, on satisfactory completion of approximately 100 hours of formal training, be granted a professional teaching permit authorizing the person to teach in his or her subject area.

The maximum amount of a loan that a person may receive during any fiscal year is \$10,000 and the maximum amount that a person may receive under the program is \$50,000. Under the bill, HEAB must forgive 25 percent of the principal and interest on the loan for the first school year, 25 percent of the principal and interest on the loan for the 2nd school year, and 50 percent of the principal and interest on the loan for the 3rd school year that the recipient holds a license or permit to teach, is employed full-time by a school district located in this state, and devotes not less than 50 percent of that full-time employment to the teaching of mathematics or science.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

ASSEMBLY BILL 1096

1 teach mathematics or science, who meet academic criteria specified by the board, and
2 who agree to teach mathematics or science in a school district located in this state.

3 (b) Tuition and fees for residents of this state who are enrolled in an alternative
4 teacher training program under s. 118.192 leading to a permit to teach mathematics
5 or science, who meet academic criteria specified by the board, and who agree to teach
6 mathematics or science in a school district located in this state.

7 (3) Loans under sub. (2) shall be awarded to residents of this state who are
8 registered at an eligible institution of higher education or are enrolled in an
9 alternative teacher training program under s. 118.192 on the basis of the
10 participation in the loan program under this section of the institution or entity
11 offering the training program and the number of students registered at the
12 institution of higher education or enrolled in the training program offered by the
13 entity who are eligible for a loan under the program. Loans awarded to recipients
14 under sub. (2) shall be disbursed directly to the eligible institutions of higher
15 education and entities offering the training program.

16 (4) The board shall make loans under sub. (2) from the appropriation account
17 under s. 20.235 (1) (cd). The maximum amount of a loan that a person may receive
18 during any fiscal year is \$10,000. The maximum amount that a person may receive
19 under this section is \$50,000. The board shall forgive 25 percent of the principal and
20 interest on the loan for the first school year, 25 percent of the principal and interest
21 on the loan for the 2nd school year, and 50 percent of the principal and interest on
22 the loan for the 3rd school year that the recipient holds a license or permit to teach,
23 is employed full time by a school district located in this state, and devotes not less
24 than 50 percent of that full-time employment to the teaching of mathematics,
25 science, or computer science.

ASSEMBLY BILL 1096

1 **(5)** The board shall deposit in the general fund as general purpose revenue —
2 earned all repayments of loans made under sub. (2) and the interest on the loans.

3 **(6)** The board shall promulgate rules to implement and administer this section.

4 **(7)** No loan may be awarded under this section after the 2015-16 academic
5 year.

6 **SECTION 5.** 39.397 of the statutes is created to read:

7 **39.397 Tomorrow's Teachers Loan Program.** **(1)** In this section, "eligible
8 institution of higher education" means the University of Wisconsin System or an
9 accredited, private institution of higher education located in this state.

10 **(2)** The board shall establish a loan program for students who meet all of the
11 following requirements:

12 (a) Are registered as juniors or seniors, or hold a bachelor's degree and are
13 registered as special students, in an eligible institution of higher education.

14 (b) Are enrolled in programs of study leading to a license to teach and are not
15 currently licensed as teachers.

16 (c) Meet academic criteria specified by the board.

17 (d) Agree to teach in a school district located in this state that has a population
18 of less than 10,000.

19 **(3)** Loans under sub. (2) shall be awarded to students registered at an eligible
20 institution of higher education on the basis of the institution's participation in the
21 loan program under this section and the number of students registered at the
22 institution of higher education who are eligible for a loan under the program. Loans
23 awarded to recipients shall be disbursed directly to the eligible institutions of higher
24 education.

