



Rep. Jonathan Carroll

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10200SB0662ham001

LRB102 13536 CMG 26293 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 662

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 662 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act is
5 amended by adding Section 65.110 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/65.110 new)

7 Sec. 65.110. School Social Work Shortage Loan Repayment
8 Program.

9 (a) To encourage Illinois students to work, and to
10 continue to work, as a school social worker in public school
11 districts in this State, the Commission shall, each year,
12 receive and consider applications for loan repayment
13 assistance under this Section. This program shall be known as
14 the School Social Work Shortage Loan Repayment Program. The
15 Commission shall administer the program and shall adopt all
16 necessary and proper rules to effectively implement the

1 program.

2 (b) Beginning July 1, 2022, subject to a separate
3 appropriation made for such purposes, the Commission shall
4 award a grant, up to a maximum of \$6,500, to each qualified
5 applicant. The Commission may encourage the recipient of a
6 grant under this Section to use the grant award for repayment
7 of the recipient's educational loan. If an appropriation for
8 this program for a given fiscal year is insufficient to
9 provide grants to all qualified applicants, the Commission
10 shall allocate the appropriation in accordance with this
11 subsection. If funds are insufficient to provide all qualified
12 applicants with a grant as authorized by this Section, the
13 Commission shall allocate the available grant funds for that
14 fiscal year to qualified applicants who submit a complete
15 application on or before a date specified by the Commission,
16 based on the following order of priority:

17 (1) first, to new, qualified applicants who are
18 members of a racial minority as defined in subsection (e);
19 and

20 (2) second, to other new, qualified applicants in
21 accordance with this Section.

22 (c) A person is a qualified applicant under this Section
23 if he or she meets all of the following qualifications:

24 (1) The person is a United States citizen or eligible
25 noncitizen.

26 (2) The person is a resident of this State.

1 (3) The person is a borrower with an outstanding
2 balance due on an educational loan related to obtaining a
3 degree in social work.

4 (4) The person has been employed as a school social
5 worker by a public elementary school or secondary school
6 in this State for at least 12 consecutive months.

7 (5) The person is currently employed as a school
8 social worker by a public elementary school or secondary
9 school in this State.

10 (d) An applicant shall submit an application, in a form
11 determined by the Commission, for grant assistance under this
12 Section to the Commission. An applicant is required to submit,
13 with the application, supporting documentation as the
14 Commission may deem necessary.

15 (e) Racial minorities are underrepresented as school
16 social workers in elementary and secondary schools in
17 Illinois, and the General Assembly finds that it is in the
18 interest of this State to provide them priority consideration
19 for programs that encourage their participation in this field
20 and thereby foster a profession that is more reflective of the
21 diversity of Illinois students and parents they will serve. A
22 more reflective workforce in school social work allows
23 improved outcomes for students and a better utilization of
24 services. Therefore, the Commission shall give priority to
25 those applicants who are members of a racial minority. In this
26 subsection (e), "racial minority" means a person who is a

1 citizen of the United States or a lawful permanent resident
2 alien of the United States and who is:

3 (1) Black (a person having origins in any of the black
4 racial groups in Africa);

5 (2) Hispanic (a person of Spanish or Portuguese
6 culture with origins in Mexico, South or Central America,
7 or the Caribbean Islands, regardless of race);

8 (3) Asian American (a person having origins in any of
9 the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the
10 Indian Subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands); or

11 (4) American Indian or Alaskan Native (a person having
12 origins in any of the original peoples of North America).

13 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
14 2022."