



General Assembly

February Session, 2022

**Raised Bill No. 5130**

LCO No. 1029



Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND  
EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by:  
(HED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR  
NONPROFIT EMPLOYEES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) (a) There is established a  
2 nonprofit employee loan reimbursement program to be administered by  
3 the Office of Higher Education.

4 (b) Within available appropriations, the program shall provide a  
5 student loan reimbursement grant for persons who (1) attended an  
6 institution of higher education in the state, and (2) worked not less than  
7 five thousand hours or two and one-half years for a nonprofit  
8 organization in the state.

9 (c) Persons who qualify under subsection (b) of this section and meet  
10 any additional requirements established by the Office of Higher  
11 Education pursuant to this subsection shall be reimbursed on an annual  
12 basis for qualifying student loans. Such reimbursement shall not exceed  
13 five thousand dollars for each year of employment with a nonprofit  
14 organization in the state and for not more than a total of three years per

15 person. A person qualifying under subsection (b) of this section shall  
16 only be reimbursed if such person is employed by a nonprofit  
17 organization in the state at the time of application for loan  
18 reimbursement pursuant to this section. The Office of Higher Education  
19 may develop additional eligibility requirements for recipients. Such  
20 requirements may include income guidelines. Persons may apply for  
21 grants to the Office of Higher Education at such time and in such  
22 manner as the executive director of said office prescribes.

23 (d) Any unexpended funds appropriated for purposes of this section  
24 shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year but shall be available for  
25 expenditure during the next fiscal year.

26 (e) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the Office of Higher  
27 Education may use up to five per cent of the funds appropriated for  
28 purposes of this section for program administration, promotion and  
29 recruitment activities.

30 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) (a) There is established a  
31 nonprofit health care employee loan reimbursement program to be  
32 administered by the Office of Higher Education.

33 (b) Within available appropriations, the program shall provide a  
34 student loan reimbursement grant for persons who (1) attended an  
35 institution of higher education in the state, and (2) worked as a health  
36 care provider or in a health care supporting role, as determined by the  
37 executive director of the Office of Higher Education, for a nonprofit  
38 organization in the state during the public health emergency declared  
39 by Governor Ned Lamont related to the COVID-19 pandemic and for  
40 not less than one year after the cessation of such public health  
41 emergency.

42 (c) Persons who qualify under subsection (b) of this section and meet  
43 any additional requirements established by the Office of Higher  
44 Education pursuant to this subsection shall be reimbursed on a one-time  
45 basis for qualifying student loans. Such reimbursement shall not exceed  
46 five thousand dollars. A person qualifying under subsection (b) of this

47 section shall only be reimbursed if such person is employed as a health  
48 care provider or in a health care supporting role, as determined by the  
49 executive director of said office, by a nonprofit organization in the state  
50 at the time of application for loan reimbursement pursuant to this  
51 section. The Office of Higher Education may develop additional  
52 eligibility requirements for recipients. Such requirements may include  
53 income guidelines. Persons may apply for grants to the Office of Higher  
54 Education at such time and in such manner as the executive director of  
55 said office prescribes.

56 (d) Any unexpended funds appropriated for purposes of this section  
57 shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year but shall be available for  
58 expenditure during the next fiscal year.

59 (e) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the Office of Higher  
60 Education may use up to five per cent of the funds appropriated for  
61 purposes of this section for program administration, promotion and  
62 recruitment activities.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To establish a loan forgiveness program for nonprofit employees.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*