

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
5 FOR
6 HOUSE BILL NO. 3382

By: Waldron, Provenzano and
 Albright of the House

7
8 and

Montgomery of the Senate

9
10
11 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

12 [schools - Oklahoma Teacher Loan Repayment Program -
13 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education -
14 educational loan repayment awards - effective date
15 - emergency]

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18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

19 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
20 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2550 of Title 70, unless there
21 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

22 A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Teacher Loan Repayment
23 Program, which shall take effect beginning with the 2020-2021 school
24

1 year. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall
2 administer the program.

3 B. The program, depending upon and limited to the balance of
4 the Oklahoma Teacher Loan Repayment Program Revolving Fund created
5 pursuant to subsection G of this section, shall provide educational
6 loan repayment awards to individuals that meet the requirements in
7 subsection D of this section as approved by the Oklahoma State
8 Regents for Higher Education.

9 C. Each award shall be distributed to the participant by drafts
10 made payable to the participant or the appropriate loan agency.
11 Prior to any disbursement, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
12 Education shall certify and properly review applications submitted
13 by the applicant and determine eligibility in accordance with
14 subsection D of this section.

15 D. An individual shall be eligible to participate in the loan
16 repayment program if the individual has:

17 1. Graduated after the effective date of this act from an
18 accredited or approved teacher education program at an institution
19 of higher education in this state; and

20 2. Been employed for no less than five (5) school years as a
21 classroom teacher at a Title I school in this state. As used in
22 this paragraph, "Title I school" means a public school that receives
23 funds pursuant to the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, 20 U.S.C.,
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1 Section 6301 et seq., and is obligated to comply with the provisions
2 of that federal law.

3 E. The amount of the award of educational loan repayment for a
4 single qualifying individual shall not exceed Four Thousand Dollars
5 (\$4,000.00) per five-year period of employment. A participant may
6 resubmit additional applications for loan repayment and receive a
7 loan repayment award. Provided that:

8 1. No year of employment shall be claimed by a participant on
9 more than one application;

10 2. Additional applications shall cover five-year increments of
11 employment;

12 3. The cumulative loan repayments awarded pursuant to the
13 provisions of this act shall not exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars
14 (\$20,000.00) for any single qualifying individual; and

15 4. No repayments shall be awarded pursuant to the provisions of
16 this act to a participant, making a claim based on a year of
17 employment for which the participant:

18 a. has received or is eligible to receive funds from a
19 loan forgiveness program administered through the U.S.
20 Department of Education's Federal Student Aid Office,
21 or

22 b. is eligible to receive or has received funds through
23 the Teacher Shortage Incentive Program administered
24

1 through the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
2 Education.

3 F. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education may accept
4 donations of public or private funds to assist in funding the
5 Oklahoma Teacher Loan Repayment Program. The Oklahoma State Regents
6 for Higher Education may, at its discretion, contract with other
7 public entities and nonprofit corporations for the endowment,
8 management and administration of such funds.

9 G. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving
10 fund for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to be
11 designated the "Oklahoma Teacher Loan Repayment Program Revolving
12 Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal
13 year limitations, and shall consist of all monies received by the
14 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education from public and private
15 sources. All monies accruing to the credit of said fund are hereby
16 appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the Oklahoma State
17 Regents for Higher Education for the purpose of providing
18 educational loan repayment assistance through the Oklahoma Teacher
19 Loan Repayment Program. Expenditures from said fund shall be made
20 upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as
21 prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and
22 Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

23 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2020.
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SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated 02/27/2020 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.