

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AMENDMENT

Committee on Education.

HB22-1220 be amended as follows:

1 Amend printed bill, page 4, line 4, strike "and".

2 Page 4, line 14, strike "efficient." and substitute "efficient; and".

3 Page 4, after line 14 insert:

4 "(l) While the COVID-19 pandemic has severely impacted the
5 number of educators entering the educator workforce, the temporary
6 educator loan forgiveness program allows educators whose loans are
7 forgiven the flexibility and peace of mind to enter the educator
8 workforce.".

9 Page 14, after line 4 insert:

10 "SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 4 to article
11 3.9 of title 23 as follows:

12 PART 4
13 TEMPORARY EDUCATOR LOAN
14 FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

15 **23-3.9-401. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS PART 4, UNLESS THE
16 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

17 (1) "APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION" MEANS A PROGRAM
18 OF STUDY FOR PREPARATION THAT IS APPROVED BY THE COLORADO
19 COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-1-121,
20 INCLUDING A PREPARATION PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS OR AN
21 ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-60.5-102
22 (5), AND THAT UPON COMPLETION LEADS TO A RECOMMENDATION FOR
23 LICENSURE BY AN ACCEPTED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AS
24 DEFINED IN SECTION 22-60.5-102 (1).

25 (2) "AT-RISK FUNDING" MEANS THE AMOUNT OF FUNDING
26 DETERMINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FORMULAS DESCRIBED IN SECTION
27 22-54-104 (4).

28 (3) "COMMISSION" MEANS THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON
29 HIGHER EDUCATION.

30 (4) "EDUCATOR" MEANS A TEACHER OR SCHOOL COUNSELOR.

31 (5) "FACILITY SCHOOL" MEANS AN APPROVED FACILITY SCHOOL,
32 AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-2-402 (1).

33 (6) "QUALIFIED LOAN" MEANS AN EDUCATIONAL LOAN INCURRED
34 WHILE COMPLETING A PROGRAM OF PREPARATION, INCLUDING AN
35 ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVED PURSUANT TO
36 ARTICLE 60.5 OF TITLE 22, THAT LEADS TO EDUCATOR LICENSURE

1 PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 60.5 OF TITLE 22, OR A BACHELOR'S OR MASTER'S
2 DEGREE IN THE AREA IN WHICH THE EDUCATOR IS EMPLOYED IN A
3 QUALIFIED POSITION.

4 (7) "QUALIFIED POSITION" MEANS:

5 (a) A HARD-TO-STAFF EDUCATOR POSITION IN A RURAL SCHOOL OR
6 RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR IN A FACILITY SCHOOL THAT IS IN A RURAL
7 SCHOOL DISTRICT, IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
8 PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-3.9-102 (6); OR

9 (b) A HARD-TO-STAFF EDUCATOR POSITION IN A CONTENT
10 SHORTAGE AREA IDENTIFIED PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-3.9-102 (6) IN A
11 COLORADO PUBLIC SCHOOL, A SCHOOL OPERATED BY A BOARD OF
12 COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 5 OF TITLE 22, OR
13 A FACILITY SCHOOL.

14 (8) "RURAL SCHOOL" OR "RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT" MEANS A
15 PUBLIC SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
16 EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-3.9-102 (6).

17 (9) "SCHOOL" OR "PUBLIC SCHOOL" MEANS A PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT
18 SERVES ANY OF GRADES KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELVE AND THAT
19 DERIVES ITS SUPPORT, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, FROM MONEY RAISED BY A
20 GENERAL STATE OR SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX. A PUBLIC SCHOOL INCLUDES A
21 CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART
22 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22, BY THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE
23 PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22, OR BY THE COLORADO
24 SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-80-102
25 (4).

26 **23-3.9-402. Temporary educator loan forgiveness program -**
27 **administration - eligibility.** (1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
28 AUTHORIZES THE COMMISSION TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A TEMPORARY
29 EDUCATOR LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN THE
30 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR FOR PAYMENT OF ALL OR PART OF THE
31 PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST OF THE QUALIFIED LOANS OF AN EDUCATOR WHO
32 IS HIRED FOR A QUALIFIED POSITION. THE COMMISSION SHALL DETERMINE
33 WHETHER A LOAN IS A QUALIFIED LOAN FOR PURPOSES OF THE TEMPORARY
34 EDUCATOR LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM. THE COMMISSION SHALL
35 DEVELOP LOAN REPAYMENT POLICIES THAT ENSURE THE MONEY IS USED
36 FOR THE REPAYMENT OF QUALIFIED LOANS OF EDUCATORS EMPLOYED IN
37 QUALIFIED POSITIONS.

38 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE
39 COMMISSION TEN MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND
40 RELIEF CASH FUND CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-75-228 TO FUND
41 THE TEMPORARY EDUCATOR LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM. THE
42 COMMISSION OR A LOAN FORGIVENESS RECIPIENT SHALL SPEND OR
43 OBLIGATE ANY MONEY RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION BY

1 DECEMBER 31, 2024. ANY MONEY OBLIGATED BY DECEMBER 31, 2024,
2 MUST BE EXPENDED BY DECEMBER 31, 2026.

3 (c) NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2022, THE COMMISSION SHALL
4 APPROVE APPLICATIONS. IF MORE NEW PARTICIPANTS APPLY THAN CAN BE
5 APPROVED BASED ON THE MONEY AVAILABLE, THE COMMISSION SHALL:

6 (I) FIRST, APPROVE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE CONTRACTED FOR A
7 QUALIFIED POSITION IN A RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OR RURAL SCHOOL
8 THAT RECEIVED AT-RISK FUNDING IN THE 2021-22 BUDGET YEAR;

9 (II) SECOND, APPROVE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE CONTRACTED FOR
10 A QUALIFIED POSITION IN A SCHOOL DISTRICT IN A CONTENT SHORTAGE
11 AREA THAT RECEIVED AT-RISK FUNDING IN THE 2021-22 BUDGET YEAR;

12 (III) THIRD, APPROVE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE CONTRACTED FOR A
13 QUALIFIED POSITION IN A RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OR RURAL SCHOOL; AND

14 (IV) FOURTH, APPROVE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE CONTRACTED FOR
15 A QUALIFIED POSITION IN A CONTENT SHORTAGE AREA.

16 (2) IN ADDITION TO ANY QUALIFICATIONS THE COMMISSION
17 SPECIFIES, TO QUALIFY FOR THE TEMPORARY EDUCATOR LOAN
18 FORGIVENESS PROGRAM, AN EDUCATOR MUST:

19 (a) GRADUATE FROM A PROGRAM OF PREPARATION THAT LEADS TO
20 EDUCATOR LICENSURE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 60.5 OF TITLE 22;

21 (b) MEET LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO SECTION
22 22-60.5-201 (1)(a) OR (1)(b) OR 22-60.5-210 (1)(a);

23 (c) ENTER THE EDUCATOR WORKFORCE ON OR AFTER THE 2019-20
24 STATE FISCAL YEAR AND CONTRACT FOR A QUALIFIED POSITION NO LATER
25 THAN THE END OF THE 2021-22 STATE FISCAL YEAR; AND

26 (d) BE LIABLE FOR AN OUTSTANDING BALANCE ON A QUALIFIED
27 LOAN.

28 (3) AN EDUCATOR WHO HAS RECEIVED MONEY FROM THE
29 EDUCATOR LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION
30 23-3.9-102, STUDENT EDUCATOR STIPEND PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION
31 23-3.9-302, OR EDUCATOR TEST STIPEND PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION
32 23-3.9-303 IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR LOAN FORGIVENESS MONEY PURSUANT TO
33 THIS PART 4.

34 (4) AN EDUCATOR WHO QUALIFIES PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)
35 OF THIS SECTION IS ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS IN LOAN
36 FORGIVENESS.

37 **23-3.9-403. Reporting.** THE COMMISSION, AND ANY PERSON WHO
38 RECEIVES MONEY FROM THE COMMISSION, INCLUDING EACH LOAN
39 FORGIVENESS RECIPIENT, SHALL COMPLY WITH THE COMPLIANCE,
40 REPORTING, RECORD-KEEPING, AND PROGRAM EVALUATION
41 REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING AND
42 BUDGETING AND THE STATE CONTROLLER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION
43 24-75-226 (5).

1 **23-3.9-404. Repeal of part.** THIS PART 4 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE
2 JANUARY 31, 2027."

3 Renumber succeeding sections accordingly.

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