

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 84th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2003

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 186

4  
5 By: Senator J. Jeffress  
6  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8  
9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE SCHOOL-BASED TEACHER LOAN  
10 PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
11

## Subtitle

12  
13 AN ACT TO CREATE THE SCHOOL-BASED  
14 TEACHER LOAN PROGRAM.  
15  
16

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
18

19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 82, is amended to add an  
20 additional subchapter to read as follows:

21 6-82-1601. Title.

22 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "School-Based  
23 Teacher Loan Program Act of 2003".  
24

25 6-82-1602. Program established - Purpose.

26 (a) There is established the School-Based Teacher Loan Program.

27 (b) The purpose of this subchapter is to encourage local school  
28 districts to provide scholarships to individuals who declare an intention to  
29 serve in the teaching field and who agree to actually render service to the  
30 school district upon receipt of a teaching license.  
31

32 6-82-1603. Eligibility for loan - Amount.

33 (a) Any individual who is enrolled in or accepted for enrollment at a  
34 baccalaureate degree granting institution of higher learning with a teacher  
35 education program that is approved by the State Board of Education or at an  
36 accredited state-supported community college in the State of Arkansas, and



1 who expresses in writing an intention to teach in the local school district  
 2 granting the loan, may be granted a forgivable loan by the local school  
 3 district to be applied toward the costs of the individual's college  
 4 education.

5 (b) The local school district is authorized to develop selection  
 6 criteria.

7 (c) The annual amount of the forgivable loan shall not exceed five  
 8 thousand five hundred dollars (\$5,500) per year.

9  
 10 6-82-1604. Service requirement for loan recipients.

11 (a) Except in those cases where employment positions may not be  
 12 available upon completion of licensure requirements, at the beginning of the  
 13 first school year in which a recipient of a loan is eligible for employment  
 14 as a licensed teacher, that person shall begin to render service as a  
 15 licensed teacher in the public school district that granted the loan.

16 (b)(1) Any person who received loans for four (4) years, or the  
 17 equivalent of that amount, shall render four (4) years of service as a  
 18 licensed teacher in the school district that made the loan.

19 (2) Any person who received fewer than four (4) loans, or the  
 20 equivalent of that amount, shall render one (1) year of service as a licensed  
 21 teacher in the school district that made the loan for each year that the  
 22 person received a full-time student loan or for the number of academic hours  
 23 equivalent to one (1) school year, as determined by the university, for which  
 24 a part-time student received a loan.

25 (c)(1) Any person failing to complete a program of study which will  
 26 enable the person to become a licensed teacher shall begin repaying the loan  
 27 according to its terms, less the corresponding amount of any loans for which  
 28 service has been rendered.

29 (2) Any person failing to complete his or her teaching  
 30 obligation, as required under subsection (b) of this section, shall begin  
 31 repaying the loan according to its terms for the sum of all loans made to  
 32 that person, less the corresponding amount of any loans for which service has  
 33 been rendered, except in the case of a deferral of debt for cause approved by  
 34 the local school board if there is no employment position immediately  
 35 available upon a teacher's completion of licensure requirements.

36 (3) After the period of the deferral, the person shall begin or

1 resume teaching duties as required under this section or shall become liable  
2 for repayment of the loan as required under this section.

3 (4) If a claim for payment under subsection (c) is placed in the  
4 hands of an attorney for collection, the obligor shall be liable for an  
5 additional amount equal to a reasonable attorney's fee.

6 (d) The obligations made by the recipient of a loan shall not be  
7 voidable by reason of the age of the student at the time of receiving the  
8 loan.

9  
10 6-82-1605. Rules and regulations - Administration.

11 (a) The local school district may promulgate rules and regulations  
12 necessary for the proper administration of a school-based teacher loan  
13 program for the local district.

14 (b) The local school district shall be the administering agency of the  
15 district's program.

9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36