

Senate Study Bill 1061 - Introduced

SENATE/HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COLLEGE STUDENT
AID COMMISSION BILL)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to eligibility requirements for grant and loan
2 forgiveness programs administered by the college student
3 aid commission that provide assistance to elementary and
4 secondary school teachers in this state.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 261.110, subsection 2, Code 2017, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 2. An Iowa resident or nonresident applicant shall be
4 eligible for a teach Iowa scholar grant if the applicant
5 meets all of the criteria specified under, or established in
6 accordance with, subsection 3. Priority shall be given to
7 applicants who are residents of Iowa. A person is ineligible
8 for this program if the person receives a forgivable loan under
9 section 261.111 or loan forgiveness under section 261.112.

10 Sec. 2. Section 261.112, subsection 1, Code 2017, is amended
11 to read as follows:

12 1. A teacher shortage loan forgiveness program is
13 established to be administered by the commission. A teacher
14 is eligible for the program if the teacher is practicing in
15 a teacher shortage area as designated by the department of
16 education pursuant to subsection 2. A person is ineligible
17 for this program if the person receives a grant under section
18 261.110 or a forgivable loan under section 261.111. For
19 purposes of this section, "teacher" means an individual holding
20 a practitioner's license issued under chapter 272, who is
21 employed in a nonadministrative position in a designated
22 shortage area by a school district or area education agency
23 pursuant to a contract issued by a board of directors under
24 section 279.13.

25

EXPLANATION

26 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
27 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

28 This bill makes a person who receives a forgivable loan
29 under the teacher shortage forgivable loan program or loan
30 forgiveness under the teacher shortage loan forgiveness program
31 ineligible to receive a grant under the teach Iowa scholar
32 program. The bill also makes a person who receives a grant
33 under the teach Iowa scholar program or a forgivable loan
34 under the teacher shortage forgivable loan program ineligible
35 to receive loan forgiveness under the teacher shortage loan

1 forgiveness program. All three programs are administered by
2 the college student aid commission.

3 Under Code section 261.110, the teach Iowa scholar program
4 provides up to \$4,000 annually to applicants who were in the
5 top 25 percent of a teacher preparation program or who had
6 earned other comparable academic credentials, and who are
7 preparing to teach full-time in certain hard-to-staff subject
8 areas at a school district, charter school, area education
9 agency, or accredited nonpublic school in this state.

10 Under Code section 261.112, the teacher shortage loan
11 forgiveness program provides loan forgiveness to teachers
12 who are employed by a school district or area education
13 agency and who are practicing in a teacher shortage area as
14 designated by the department of education. The annual amount
15 of loan forgiveness shall not exceed the resident tuition rate
16 established for the regents universities or 20 percent of the
17 teacher's total federally guaranteed Stafford loan amount under
18 the federal family education loan program or the federal direct
19 loan program, including principal and interest, whichever
20 amount is less.

21 Under Code section 261.111, the teacher shortage forgivable
22 loan program provided forgivable loans to applicants who were
23 enrolled in an approved practitioner preparation program in a
24 designated area in which teacher shortages were anticipated.
25 The last year in which moneys were appropriated for this
26 program was fiscal year 2007-2008.