

SENATE AMENDMENTS

2nd Printing

By: Kolkhorst, Sheffield,
Gonzalez Toureilles, Hodge

H.B. No. 518

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to programs to provide student loan repayment assistance
3 for certain correctional officers and for certain speech-language
4 pathologists and audiologists.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Chapter 61, Education Code, is amended by adding
7 Subchapter FF to read as follows:

8 SUBCHAPTER FF. CORRECTIONAL OFFICER LOAN REPAYMENT

9 ASSISTANCE PILOT PROGRAM

10 Sec. 61.9781. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

11 (1) "Correctional officer" means a correctional
12 officer employed in a confinement facility operated by the Texas
13 Department of Criminal Justice.

14 (2) "Trust fund" means the correctional officer loan
15 repayment assistance trust fund.

16 Sec. 61.9782. REPAYMENT AUTHORIZED. The board shall
17 establish a pilot program to provide, using money in the trust fund
18 and in accordance with this subchapter and rules of the board,
19 assistance in the repayment of student loans for correctional
20 officers who apply and qualify for the assistance.

21 Sec. 61.9783. ELIGIBILITY. To be eligible to receive
22 repayment assistance, a correctional officer must:

23 (1) have received a baccalaureate degree from Sam
24 Houston State University or from another general academic teaching

1 institution that is selected to participate in the program by the
2 board under Section 61.9789(b) if the board expands the program to
3 include an additional general academic teaching institution;

4 (2) establish to the board that:

5 (A) the repayment assistance will be used to
6 repay any part of a student loan received by the correctional
7 officer to cover the officer's cost of attendance in connection
8 with enrollment in junior-level or senior-level course work in the
9 baccalaureate degree program at the institution;

10 (B) during the period of the correctional
11 officer's enrollment at the institution as described by Paragraph
12 (A), the officer:

13 (i) was employed full-time as a
14 correctional officer in this state;

15 (ii) was classified as a resident of this
16 state under Subchapter B, Chapter 54;

17 (iii) established financial need as
18 determined by board rule; and

19 (iv) maintained good academic standing at
20 the institution as determined by board rule; and

21 (C) the correctional officer has not committed an
22 offense:

23 (i) under Chapter 39, Penal Code;

24 (ii) under Section 38.11 or 38.114, Penal
25 Code;

26 (iii) under any other provision of the
27 Penal Code in which the victim was a person in the custody of the

1 Texas Department of Criminal Justice at the time the offense
2 occurred; or

3 (iv) the elements of which are equivalent
4 to a criminal offense under the law of another state, federal law,
5 or the law of a foreign government;

6 (3) complete at least two full years of employment as a
7 full-time correctional officer in this state not later than the
8 second anniversary of the date of the person's graduation from the
9 institution; and

10 (4) comply with any other requirements adopted by
11 board rule under this subchapter.

12 Sec. 61.9784. ELIGIBLE LOANS. (a) The board may provide
13 repayment assistance for the repayment of any student loan received
14 by an eligible correctional officer through any lender for the cost
15 of attendance for enrollment at Sam Houston State University or at
16 another general academic teaching institution that is selected by
17 the board to participate in the program under Section 61.9789(b).

18 (b) The board may withhold repayment assistance for a
19 student loan that is in default at the time of the correctional
20 officer's application.

21 (c) Subject to Sections 61.9785 and 61.9788, in each state
22 fiscal biennium the board shall attempt to allocate all funds
23 available in the trust fund for the purpose of providing repayment
24 assistance under this subchapter.

25 Sec. 61.9785. REPAYMENT. (a) The board shall deliver any
26 repayment under this subchapter in a lump sum:

27 (1) payable to both the lender or other holder of the

1 loan and the correctional officer; or

2 (2) on the correctional officer's behalf directly to
3 the lender or other holder of the loan.

4 (b) A repayment under this subchapter may be applied to any
5 amount due in connection with the loan.

6 (c) The board may grant prior conditional approval to a
7 correctional officer who completes each eligibility requirement
8 under Section 61.9783 other than the requirement under Section
9 61.9783(3) and may reserve money in the trust fund for disbursement
10 under this subchapter on the officer's completion of that
11 requirement.

12 Sec. 61.9786. RULES. (a) The board shall adopt rules
13 necessary to administer this subchapter. The board may consult
14 with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to assist the board in
15 establishing priorities among eligible correctional officers for
16 repayment assistance.

17 (b) The board shall distribute to Sam Houston State
18 University, any other general academic teaching institution that is
19 selected by the board to participate in the program under Section
20 61.9789(b), each public junior college, and appropriate state
21 agencies and professional associations copies of the rules adopted
22 under this section and other pertinent information relating to this
23 subchapter.

24 Sec. 61.9787. AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE. (a) The loan
25 repayment amount for one year of full-time employment as a
26 correctional officer beginning two years after graduation from Sam
27 Houston State University or from another general academic teaching

1 institution that is selected by the board to participate in the
2 program under Section 61.9789(b) may not exceed the cost of
3 attendance for the officer to enroll in 30 semester credit hours of
4 junior-level or senior-level course work at the institution, as
5 applicable.

6 (b) The total amount of repayment assistance distributed by
7 the board under this subchapter may not exceed the total amount of
8 gifts and grants accepted by the board for repayment assistance,
9 legislative appropriations for repayment assistance, and other
10 funds available to the board for purposes of this subchapter.

11 Sec. 61.9788. TRUST FUND. (a) The board shall award
12 repayment assistance under this subchapter from the amount
13 available in the trust fund. The trust fund is established outside
14 the treasury but is held in trust by the comptroller. Money in the
15 trust fund may be spent without appropriation and only to fund the
16 pilot program. Interest and income from the assets of the trust
17 fund shall be credited to and deposited in the trust fund. In each
18 state fiscal year the board may spend from the trust fund to cover
19 the costs of administering this subchapter an amount not to exceed
20 2.5 percent of the total amount of money deposited into the trust
21 fund in that fiscal year.

22 (b) The board may solicit and accept gifts and grants from
23 any public or private source for the purposes of this subchapter and
24 shall deposit a gift or grant to the credit of the trust fund.

25 (c) The legislature may appropriate money to the trust fund.

26 Sec. 61.9789. EVALUATION OF PILOT PROGRAM. (a) The board
27 shall evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot program established

1 under this subchapter and report the results of the evaluation to
2 the legislature not later than December 31 of each even-numbered
3 year.

4 (b) If the board determines that expansion of the program
5 would enhance the effectiveness of the program or improve the
6 board's ability to evaluate the program, the board by rule may
7 expand the program to include as eligible to receive repayment
8 assistance under Section 61.9783 a correctional officer who:

9 (1) received a baccalaureate degree from a general
10 academic teaching institution other than Sam Houston State
11 University that is located near a confinement facility operated by
12 the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and that is selected by the
13 board to participate in the program; and

14 (2) meets all other eligibility requirements
15 prescribed by or adopted under Section 61.9783.

16 (c) If the board by rule expands the program under
17 Subsection (b) to include graduates of one or more other general
18 academic teaching institutions, the board shall include in the
19 report under Subsection (a) information regarding the
20 effectiveness of the expansion and the name of each additional
21 general academic teaching institution selected to participate in
22 the program.

23 Sec. 61.9790. TERMINATION OF PILOT PROGRAM. The board may
24 not award repayment assistance under this subchapter to pay the
25 costs of enrollment in an academic year after the 2015-2016
26 academic year. On January 1, 2019, the trust fund is abolished and
27 any amount remaining in the trust fund shall be transferred to the

1 general revenue fund.

2 SECTION 2. Chapter 61, Education Code, is amended by adding
3 Subchapter GG to read as follows:

4 SUBCHAPTER GG. REPAYMENT OF CERTAIN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST
5 AND AUDIOLOGIST EDUCATION LOANS

6 Sec. 61.9801. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

7 (1) "Audiologist" means a person licensed as an
8 audiologist under Chapter 401, Occupations Code.

9 (2) "Communicative disorders program" means a
10 graduate degree program in audiology or speech-language pathology
11 accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology
12 and Speech-Language Pathology.

13 (3) "Public school" means a public preschool or
14 primary or secondary school in this state.

15 (4) "Speech-language pathologist" means a person
16 licensed as a speech-language pathologist under Chapter 401,
17 Occupations Code.

18 Sec. 61.9802. REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZED. The board
19 shall provide, in accordance with this subchapter and board rules,
20 assistance in the repayment of student loans for speech-language
21 pathologists and audiologists who apply and qualify for assistance.

22 Sec. 61.9803. ELIGIBILITY. (a) To be eligible to receive
23 repayment assistance, a speech-language pathologist or an
24 audiologist must:

25 (1) apply to the board; and

26 (2) at the time the speech-language pathologist or
27 audiologist applies for the assistance:

1 (A) have been employed as a speech-language
2 pathologist or as an audiologist, as applicable, for at least one
3 year by, and be currently employed full-time in that capacity by, a
4 public school; or

5 (B) have been employed as a faculty member of a
6 communicative disorders program at an institution of higher
7 education for at least one year, and be currently employed
8 full-time in that capacity at such an institution.

9 (b) The board by rule may provide for repayment assistance
10 on a pro rata basis for speech-language pathologists and
11 audiologists employed part-time by a public school or institution
12 of higher education.

13 Sec. 61.9804. LIMITATION. (a) On qualifying for the
14 assistance, a speech-language pathologist or an audiologist may
15 receive repayment assistance grants for each year of employment,
16 not to exceed five years, by:

17 (1) a public school; or

18 (2) a communicative disorders program at an
19 institution of higher education.

20 (b) The amount of repayment assistance grants that a
21 speech-language pathologist or an audiologist may receive for each
22 year of employment by a public school or a communicative disorders
23 program at an institution of higher education may not exceed 20
24 percent of the speech-language pathologist's or audiologist's total
25 principal amount of student loans.

26 (c) The total amount of repayment assistance grants
27 received by a speech-language pathologist or an audiologist under

1 this subchapter may not exceed \$30,000 for an eligible recipient
2 who holds a master's degree but not a doctoral degree, or \$45,000
3 for an eligible recipient who holds a doctoral degree.

4 Sec. 61.9805. ELIGIBLE LOANS. (a) The board may provide
5 repayment assistance for the repayment of any student loan for
6 education at an institution of higher education, including loans
7 for undergraduate education, received by a speech-language
8 pathologist or an audiologist through any lender.

9 (b) The board may not provide repayment assistance for a
10 student loan that is in default at the time of the speech-language
11 pathologist's or audiologist's application.

12 (c) Each state fiscal biennium, the board shall attempt to
13 provide repayment assistance in amounts sufficient to use all the
14 money appropriated to the board for that biennium for the purpose of
15 providing repayment assistance under this subchapter.

16 Sec. 61.9806. REPAYMENT. (a) The board shall deliver any
17 repayment made under this subchapter in a lump sum payable to the
18 lender and the speech-language pathologist or audiologist, in
19 accordance with any applicable federal law.

20 (b) A repayment made under this subchapter may be applied
21 only to the principal amount of the loan.

22 Sec. 61.9807. ADVISORY COMMITTEES. The board may appoint
23 advisory committees to assist the board in administering this
24 subchapter.

25 Sec. 61.9808. ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS. The board may accept
26 gifts, grants, and donations for the purposes of this subchapter.

27 Sec. 61.9809. RULES. (a) The board shall adopt rules

1 necessary for the administration of this subchapter.

2 (b) The board shall distribute a copy of the rules adopted
3 under this section and pertinent information regarding this
4 subchapter to:

5 (1) each institution of higher education;

6 (2) any appropriate state agency; and

7 (3) any appropriate professional association.

8 SECTION 3. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
9 shall adopt the rules for repayment assistance under Subchapter FF,
10 Chapter 61, Education Code, as added by this Act, not later than
11 December 1, 2009.

12 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

ADOPTED

MAY 26 2009

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. 1

Atty Gen BY: *J. Quinn*
Secretary of the Senate

1 Amend H.B. No. 518 (senate committee printing) by adding
2 the following SECTIONS to the bill and renumbering subsequent
3 SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

4 SECTION __. Chapter 61, Education Code, is amended by
5 adding Subchapter GG to read as follows:

6 SUBCHAPTER GG. TEXAS TEACH CORPS STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT

7 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE CLASSROOM

8 TEACHERS

9 Sec. 61.9831. LOAN REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZED. The
10 board shall provide, in accordance with this subchapter and
11 board rules, assistance in the repayment of eligible student
12 loans for eligible undergraduate students who agree to teach
13 mathematics or science for a specified period in school
14 districts in this state that are determined by the Texas
15 Education Agency to have shortages of teachers in mathematics or
16 science.

17 Sec. 61.9832. ELIGIBILITY; AGREEMENT REQUIREMENTS.

18 (a) To be eligible to receive loan repayment assistance under
19 this subchapter, a person must:

20 (1) apply for the loan repayment assistance in the
21 manner prescribed by the board;

22 (2) have graduated from high school in this state;

23 (3) be currently enrolled in an educator preparation
24 program accredited by the State Board for Educator Certification
25 that is provided by an institution of higher education or by a
26 private or independent institution of higher education in this
27 state;

28 (4) have a cumulative grade point average of at least
29 2.75 on a four-point scale or the equivalent;

1 (5) enter into an agreement with the board providing

2 that:

3 (A) the person will earn a baccalaureate degree
4 through completion of an educator preparation program described
5 by Subdivision (3);

6 (B) the person will graduate with a cumulative
7 grade point average of at least 2.75 on a four-point scale or
8 the equivalent;

9 (C) the person will obtain, within the period
10 prescribed by board rule, appropriate certification under
11 Subchapter B, Chapter 21, to teach mathematics or science in a
12 public school in this state;

13 (D) beginning with the first school year that
14 begins after the date the person obtains the appropriate
15 certification described by Paragraph (C), the person will accept
16 an offer of full-time employment to teach mathematics or
17 science, as applicable based on the person's certification, in a
18 school district in this state selected by the person from among
19 districts determined by the Texas Education Agency to have
20 shortages of teachers in that subject for that first school year
21 for which the person is accepting employment;

22 (E) the person will complete four consecutive
23 years of employment as a full-time classroom teacher in a
24 district described by Paragraph (D) whose primary duty is to
25 teach mathematics or science, as applicable, based on the
26 person's certification; and

27 (F) the person acknowledges the conditional
28 nature of the loan repayment assistance; and

29 (6) comply with any other requirement adopted by the
30 board under this subchapter.

31 (b) Except as provided by Section 61.9833, for the first

1 school year of employment and each following consecutive school
2 year of employment, as described by Subsections (a)(5)(D) and
3 (E), not to exceed a total of four years, the board may provide
4 assistance for the repayment of a portion of an eligible
5 person's eligible loans. Subject to the availability of funding
6 under Section 61.9836 and except as otherwise provided by this
7 subsection, the amount of an assistance payment provided under
8 this subsection in any year to an eligible person is \$5,000.
9 The board shall increase that amount as necessary to adjust for
10 inflation or, as determined by the board, on the basis of other
11 relevant considerations. The board shall reduce the amount of a
12 single assistance payment or refrain from making an assistance
13 payment to an eligible person as necessary to avoid making total
14 payments under this subsection to the person in an amount
15 greater than the total amount of principal and interest due on
16 the person's eligible loans.

17 (c) For purposes of this subchapter, whether a school
18 district is determined to have a shortage of mathematics or
19 science teachers for a school year is based on a determination
20 made by the Texas Education Agency during the preceding school
21 year. Not later than April 1 of each school year, the Texas
22 Education Agency shall determine which school districts in this
23 state have a shortage of mathematics or science teachers during
24 that school year and shall provide that information to the board
25 and to each educator preparation program in this state
26 accredited by the State Board for Educator Certification.

27 (d) For purposes of Subsection (a)(5)(E), if a person is
28 employed as a teacher in a school district determined to have a
29 shortage of teachers in mathematics or science for the first
30 year of employment, each subsequent year of continuous
31 employment as a teacher in that district is considered to be

1 employment in a district determined to have such a shortage of
2 teachers in that subject in that subsequent year, regardless of
3 whether the Texas Education Agency determined that the district
4 had a shortage of teachers in that subject for that year.

5 (e) To satisfy the teaching obligation prescribed by an
6 agreement under this section, a person must teach mathematics or
7 science courses for not less than an average of four hours each
8 school day.

9 Sec. 61.9833. EXCEPTION TO CONSECUTIVE YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT
10 REQUIREMENT. The board shall excuse an otherwise eligible
11 person from the requirement imposed by Section 61.9832(a)(5)(E)
12 that the employment be performed in consecutive years if the
13 break in employment is a result of the person's:

14 (1) full-time enrollment in a course of study related
15 to the field of teaching that is approved by the State Board for
16 Educator Certification and provided by an institution of higher
17 education or by a private or independent institution of higher
18 education in this state;

19 (2) service on active duty as a member of the armed
20 forces of the United States, including as a member of a reserve
21 or National Guard unit called for active duty;

22 (3) temporary total disability for a period of not
23 more than 36 months as established by the affidavit of a
24 qualified physician;

25 (4) inability to secure employment as required by
26 Section 61.9832 for a period not to exceed 12 months, because of
27 care required by a disabled spouse or child;

28 (5) inability, despite reasonable efforts, to secure,
29 for a single period not to exceed 12 months, employment as
30 required by Section 61.9832; or

31 (6) satisfaction of the provisions of any other

1 exception adopted by the board for purposes of this section.

2 Sec. 61.9834. ELIGIBLE LOANS. (a) The board may provide
3 under this subchapter repayment assistance for the repayment of
4 any student loan that:

5 (1) is for education at a public or private
6 institution of higher education; and

7 (2) is received by an eligible person through an
8 eligible lender.

9 (b) If the loan is not a state or federal guaranteed
10 student loan, the note or other writing governing the terms of
11 the loan must require the loan proceeds to be used for expenses
12 incurred by a person in attending a postsecondary educational
13 institution.

14 (c) The board may not provide loan repayment assistance
15 under this subchapter for a student loan that is in default at
16 the time of the person's application for repayment assistance.

17 Sec. 61.9835. PAYMENT OF ASSISTANCE. (a) The board shall
18 pay any loan repayment assistance under this subchapter in a
19 lump sum:

20 (1) payable to both the holder of the loan and the
21 eligible person; or

22 (2) delivered on the eligible person's behalf
23 directly to the holder of the loan.

24 (b) Loan repayment assistance provided under this
25 subchapter may be applied to any amount due on the loan.

26 (c) Each fiscal biennium, the board shall attempt to
27 allocate all money available to the board for the purpose of
28 providing loan repayment assistance under this subchapter.

29 Sec. 61.9836. MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHER INVESTMENT
30 FUND. (a) In this section, "fund" means the mathematics and
31 science teacher investment fund.

1 (b) The fund is a dedicated account in the general revenue
2 fund and consists of:

3 (1) appropriations of money to the fund by the
4 legislature;

5 (2) gifts, grants, and other donations received for
6 the fund; and

7 (3) interest and other earnings from the investment
8 of the fund.

9 (c) The fund may be used only to provide repayment
10 assistance for the repayment of loans eligible under Section
11 61.9834, including related administrative costs.

12 (d) The fund is exempt from the application of Sections
13 403.095 and 404.071, Government Code.

14 (e) The board may solicit and accept grants, gifts, or
15 donations from any public or private entity for the purposes of
16 this subchapter. All money received under this subchapter shall
17 be deposited in the fund.

18 Sec. 61.9837. AMOUNT OF LOAN REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE.

19 (a) The total amount of loan repayment assistance paid by the
20 board under this subchapter may not exceed the total amount of
21 money available in the fund under Section 61.9836 and any other
22 money that the board is legally authorized to use for purposes
23 of this subchapter.

24 (b) Not more than 4,000 eligible persons may be provided
25 loan repayment assistance in the amount authorized under this
26 subchapter in any school year.

27 (b-1) This subsection expires January 1, 2016.
28 Notwithstanding Subsection (b), not more than the following
29 number of eligible persons may be provided loan repayment
30 assistance in the amount authorized under this subchapter in the
31 specified school year:

1 (1) in the 2012-2013 school year, not more than 1,000
2 eligible persons may be provided loan repayment assistance;

3 (2) in the 2013-2014 school year, not more than 2,000
4 eligible persons may be provided loan repayment assistance; and

5 (3) in the 2014-2015 school year, not more than 3,000
6 eligible persons may be provided loan repayment assistance.

7 (c) If in any year the amount of money available for loan
8 repayment assistance under this subchapter is insufficient to
9 provide loan repayment assistance to each eligible applicant or
10 if there are more eligible applicants than the number authorized
11 by this section, the board shall establish criteria to determine
12 which eligible applicants will be provided repayment assistance
13 as the board determines appropriate to further the purposes of
14 this subchapter.

15 Sec. 61.9838. RULES. The board shall:

16 (1) adopt rules necessary for the administration of
17 this subchapter, including a rule providing for the manner in
18 which a person may apply for loan repayment assistance; and

19 (2) distribute to each educator preparation program
20 approved by the State Board for Educator Certification offered
21 by an institution of higher education or by a private or
22 independent institution of higher education in this state a copy
23 of the rules adopted under this section.

24 SECTION __. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
25 shall begin providing loan repayment assistance under Subchapter
26 GG, Chapter 61, Education Code, as added by this Act, for
27 eligible persons teaching in the 2012-2013 school year.

28 SECTION __. Subchapter GG, Chapter 61, Education Code, as
29 added by this Act, does not make an appropriation. A provision
30 in Subchapter GG, Chapter 61, Education Code, as added by this
31 Act, that creates a new governmental program, creates a new

1 entitlement, or imposes a new duty on a governmental entity is
2 not mandatory during a fiscal period for which the legislature
3 has not made a specific appropriation to implement the
4 provision.

ADOPTED

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. 2

MAY 26 2009

Henry Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

BY: *OJD*

1 Amend HB 518 by adding the following appropriately
2 numbered SECTION to the bill and renumbering subsequent SECTIONS
3 of the bill appropriately:

4 SECTION _____. This Act does not make an appropriation.
5 A provision in this Act that creates a new governmental program,
6 creates a new entitlement, or imposes a new duty on a
7 governmental entity is not mandatory during a fiscal period for
8 which the legislature has not made a specific appropriation to
9 implement the provision.

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas**

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 28, 2009

TO: Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB518 by Kolkhorst (relating to programs to provide student loan repayment assistance for certain correctional officers and for certain speech-language pathologists and audiologists.),
As Passed 2nd House

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB518, As Passed 2nd House: a negative impact of (\$1,346,509) through the biennium ending August 31, 2011.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2010	(\$409,261)
2011	(\$937,248)
2012	(\$977,914)
2013	(\$6,202,074)
2014	(\$11,553,554)

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable (Cost) from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1
2010	(\$409,261)
2011	(\$937,248)
2012	(\$977,914)
2013	(\$6,202,074)
2014	(\$11,553,554)

Fiscal Year	Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2009
2010	1.0
2011	2.0
2012	2.0
2013	2.0
2014	2.0

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would create programs to provide student loan repayment assistance for certain correctional officers and for certain speech-language pathologists and audiologists. The bill would also create the Texas Teach Corps Student Loan Repayment Program Assistance Program for undergraduate students who agree to teach in school districts that have shortages of teachers in mathematics or science

Correctional Officer Loan Repayment Program

The bill would create a pilot program, administered by the Higher Education Coordinating Board, to provide student loan repayment assistance to certain correctional officers who graduate from Sam Houston State University if certain eligibility requirements are met, including a two year service requirement. Under provisions of the bill, the loan repayment may not exceed the cost of attendance for officers to enroll in 30 semester credit hours of junior or senior-level coursework at the university. The loans would be paid from a trust fund, which is outside the treasury but is held in trust by the comptroller. Gifts and grants as well state appropriations may be used to fund the program.

Speech-language pathologist and audiologists loan repayment program

The bill would create a student loan repayment assistance program for speech-language pathologists or audiologists employed by a public school. The program would be administered by the Higher Education Coordinating Board. Under provisions of the bill, to be eligible for repayment assistance, the speech-language pathologist or audiologist would be required to: (1) apply to the Higher Education Coordinating Board; and (2) have been employed at full time capacity for at least one year by a public school; or (3) have been employed as a full-time faculty member of a communicative disorders program at an institution of higher education or private or independent institution of higher education for at least one year. The Board may also provide repayment assistance on a pro rata basis to speech-language pathologists or audiologists who are employed part-time by a public school or institution of higher education or private or independent institution of higher education.

The total amount of repayment assistance grants received by a speech-language pathologist or an audiologist under this chapter may not exceed, 1) for an eligible recipient who holds a master's degree but not a doctoral degree, a total of \$30,000 over five years; or 2) for an eligible recipient who holds a doctoral degree, \$45,000 over five years. The Board may provide repayment assistance for any student loan received by a speech-language pathologist or audiologist except for those loans that are in default. Funding for the repayments will come from money that is appropriated to the Board each biennium. The Board may also accept funds through gifts, grants, and donations to use for the student loan repayment assistance grants

Texas Teach Corps Student Loan Repayment Assistance Program

The bill would create the Texas Teach Corps Student Loan Repayment Assistance Program, administered by the Higher Education Coordinating Board, for eligible students who agree to teach in public schools that have teacher shortages in math and science. Under provisions of the bill, not more than 4,000 eligible persons may be awarded loan repayment assistance in any one year, but beginning in the 2012-13 academic year, not more than 1,000 eligible persons may receive loans. The number of eligible persons would increase by a 1,000 each academic year.

Subject to the availability of funds, the amount of an assistance payment provided under the bill in any year could not exceed \$5,000. Except as provided for the bill, for the first school year of employment and each following consecutive school year of employment, not to exceed four years, the Higher Education Coordinating Board may provide assistance for the repayment of a portion of an eligible person's eligible loans.

The bill would create the mathematics and science teacher investment fund. The fund is a dedicated account in the general revenue fund and consists of appropriations of money to the fund by the legislature; gifts, grants, and other donations received for the fund; and interest and other earnings from the investment of the fund. The fund could only be used to provide repayment assistance for the repayment of eligible loans as specified in the bill.

Under provisions of the bill, the Higher Education Coordinating Board would begin providing loan repayment assistance for eligible persons teaching in the 2012-13 school year (fiscal year 2013).

Methodology

For purposes of this fiscal note it is assumed that general revenue would be used to support the three programs.

Pilot Loan Repayment Program for Correctional Officers

Sam Houston State University reported 409 graduates in Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice & Safety for fiscal year 2008. For purposes of this fiscal note it is assumed that 5% of these graduates will meet the eligibility requirements of the program, or approximately 20 graduates per year. The Higher Education Coordinating Board indicates that the cost of tuition and fees at \$5,904 per year resulting in scholarship awards of approximately \$118,000 per year. Since the officers would be required to fulfill a two-year service requirement beginning in fiscal year 2010, the scholarships (totaling \$236,000) will not be disbursed until fiscal year 2011.

Loan Repayment Program for Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists

For purposes of this fiscal note it is assumed that 45 speech-language pathologists and audiologists and two faculty members employed in a communicative disorder program at institutions of higher education including private and independent institutions will receive loan repayment assistance in fiscal year 2010. It is also assumed that the annual loan repayment is \$5,000 for speech-language pathologists per year (the bill allows for a total of \$30,000 over five years) and \$9,000 per year for faculty of communicative disorders programs (the bill allows for a total of \$45,000 over five years) resulting in a total cost of \$288,000 in fiscal year 2010. The number of pathologists and audiologist and faculty members receiving loan repayment assistance would increase by the same amount (45 and 2) in the subsequent years increasing to a total of 225 in fiscal year 2014.

Texas Teach Corps Student Loan Repayment Assistance Program

For purposes of this fiscal note, the Higher Education Coordinating Board assumed that they will begin receiving applications from eligible juniors beginning in fiscal year 2011 and that these juniors will continue to meet all requirements through graduation in fiscal year 2012 and the service period ending in fiscal year 2013. It is also assumed the amount of loans would be \$5,000 and the number of loans awarded would be 1,000 in fiscal year 2013, and 2,000 in fiscal year 2014. These amounts could be less depending on the tuition and fees covered by the loans and how many students take advantage of the program.

Administrative Costs

The Higher Education Coordinating Board has indicated they would need to hire one additional FTE to administer the correctional officer and speech pathologist and audiologist loan repayment programs. The total costs for salaries and benefits for the FTE is \$68,131 in fiscal year 2010 and \$56,957 for subsequent years. There would also be \$17,710 in technology costs for developing each of the new loan repayment programs.

For the Texas Teach Corps Student Loan Repayment Assistance Program, they would need to hire an account representative that would be hired at a total salary and benefit costs of \$68,131 in fiscal year 2011 and \$56,957 in fiscal year 2012 and subsequent years and one time technology costs for custom programming to add a new loan type with unique characteristic to the Higher Education Coordinating Board's student loan software system (in fiscal year 2010 only).

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board, 710 Texas A&M University System Administrative and General Offices, 720 The University of Texas System Administration, 758 Texas State University System, 769 University of North Texas System Administration, 783 University of Houston System Administration

LBB Staff: JOB, GO, MN, RT, KK

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 23, 2009

TO: Honorable Steve Ogden, Chair, Senate Committee on Finance

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB518** by Kolkhorst (Relating to programs to provide student loan repayment assistance for certain correctional officers and for certain speech-language pathologists and audiologists.),
As Engrossed

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB518, As Engrossed: a negative impact of (\$1,260,668) through the biennium ending August 31, 2011.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2010	(\$391,551)
2011	(\$869,117)
2012	(\$920,957)
2013	(\$1,145,117)
2014	(\$1,496,597)

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable (Cost) from General Revenue Fund 1
2010	(\$391,551)
2011	(\$869,117)
2012	(\$920,957)
2013	(\$1,145,117)
2014	(\$1,496,597)

Fiscal Year	Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2009
2010	1.0
2011	1.0
2012	1.0
2013	1.0
2014	1.0

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would create programs to provide student loan repayment assistance for certain correctional officers and for certain speech-language pathologists and audiologist.

The bill would create a pilot program, administered by the Higher Education Coordinating Board, to provide student loan repayment assistance to certain correctional officers who graduate from Sam Houston State University if certain eligibility requirements are met, including a two year service requirement. Under provisions of the bill, the loan repayment may not exceed the cost of attendance for officers to enroll in 30 semester credit hours of junior or senior-level coursework at the university. The loans would be paid from a trust fund , which is outside the treasury but is held in trust by the comptroller. Gifts and grants as well state appropriations may be used to fund the program.

The bill would create a student loan repayment assistance program for speech-language pathologists or audiologists employed by a public school. The program would be administered by the Higher Education Coordinating Board. Under provisions of the bill, to be eligible for repayment assistance, the speech-language pathologist or audiologist would be required to: (1) apply to the Higher Education Coordinating Board; and (2) have been employed at full time capacity for at least one year by a public school; or (3) have been employed as a full-time faculty member of a communicative disorders program at an institution of higher education or private or independent institution of higher education for at least one year. The Board may also provide repayment assistance on a pro rata basis to speech-language pathologists or audiologists who are employed part-time by a public school or institution of higher education or private or independent institution of higher education.

The total amount of repayment assistance grants received by a speech-language pathologist or an audiologist under this chapter may not exceed, 1) for an eligible recipient who holds a master's degree but not a doctoral degree, a total of \$30,000 over five years; or 2) for an eligible recipient who holds a doctoral degree, \$45,000 over five years. The Board may provide repayment assistance for any student loan received by a speech-language pathologist or audiologist except for those loans that are in default. Funding for the repayments will come from money that is appropriated to the Board each biennium. The Board may also accept funds through gifts, grants, and donations to use for the student loan repayment assistance grants

Methodology

For purposes of this fiscal note it is assumed that general revenue would be used to support both programs.

Pilot Loan Repayment Program for Correctional Officers

Sam Houston State University reported 409 graduates in Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice & Safety for fiscal year 2008. For purposes of this fiscal note it is assumed that 5% of these graduates will meet the eligibility requirements of the program, or approximately 20 graduates per year. The Higher Education Coordinating Board indicates that the cost of tuition and fees at \$5,904 per year resulting in scholarship awards of approximately \$118,000 per year. Since the officers would be required to fulfill a two-year service requirement beginning in fiscal year 2010, the scholarships (totaling \$236,000) will not be disbursed until fiscal year 2011.

Loan Repayment Program for Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists

For purposes of this fiscal note it is assumed that 45 speech-language pathologists and audiologists and two faculty members employed in a communicative disorder program at institutions of higher educations including private and independent institutions will receive loan repayment assistance in fiscal year 2010. It is also assumed that the annual loan repayment is \$5,000 for speech-language pathologists per year (the bill allows for a total of \$30,000 over five years) and \$9,000 per year for faculty of communicative disorders programs (the bill allows for a total of \$45,000 over five years) resulting in a total cost of \$288,0000 in fiscal year 2010. The number of pathologists and audiologist and faculty members receiving loan repayment assistance would increase by the same amount (45 and 2) in the subsequent years increasing to a total of 225 in fiscal year 2014.

Administrative Costs

The Higher Education Coordinating Board has indicated they would need to hire one additional FTE to administer both programs. The total costs for salaries and benefits for the FTE is \$68,131 in fiscal

year 2010 and \$56,957 for subsequent years. There would also be \$17,710 in technology costs for developing new loan repayment programs.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board, 710 Texas A&M University System Administrative and General Offices, 720 The University of Texas System Administration, 758 Texas State University System, 769 University of North Texas System Administration, 783 University of Houston System Administration

LBB Staff: JOB, MN, RT, GO, KK

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 20, 2009

TO: Honorable Jim McReynolds, Chair, House Committee on Corrections

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB518** by Kolkhorst (Relating to a pilot program to provide student loan repayment assistance to certain correctional officers who graduate from Sam Houston State University or certain other institutions of higher education.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would create a pilot program, administered by the Higher Education Coordinating Board, to provide student loan repayment assistance to certain correctional officers who graduate from Sam Houston State University if certain eligibility requirements are met, including a two year service requirement. Under provisions of the bill, the loan repayment may not exceed the cost of attendance for officers to enroll in 30 semester credit hours of junior or senior-level coursework at the university. The loans would be paid from a trust fund , which is outside the treasury but is held in trust by the comptroller. Gifts and grants as well state appropriations may be used to fund the program. Under provisions of the bill, the Coordinating Board may use 2.5 percent of the total amount in the funds to cover the costs of administering the program..

Sam Houston State University reported 409 graduates in Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice & Safety for fiscal year 2008. For purposes of this fiscal note it is assumed that 5% of these graduates will meet the eligibility requirements of the program, or approximately 20 graduates per year. The Higher Education Coordinating Board indicates that the cost of tuition and fees at \$5,904 per year resulting in scholarship awards of approximately \$118,000 per year. Since the officers would be required to fulfill a two-year service requirement beginning in fiscal year 2010, the scholarships (totaling \$236,000) will not be disbursed until fiscal year 2011. It is also assumed for purposes of this fiscal note that the Higher Education Coordinating Board will find the resources to support the loan program as the bill does not expressly require the State to support the trust fund.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 696 Department of Criminal Justice, 758 Texas State University System, 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board

LBB Staff: JOB, ESi, RT, GO

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 16, 2009

TO: Honorable Jim McReynolds, Chair, House Committee on Corrections

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB518 by Kolkhorst (Relating to a pilot program to provide student loan repayment assistance to certain correctional officers who graduate from Sam Houston State University or certain other institutions of higher education.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would create a pilot program, administered by the Higher Education Coordinating Board, to provide student loan repayment assistance to certain correctional officers who graduate from Sam Houston State University if certain eligibility requirements are met. Under provisions of the bill, the loan repayment may not exceed the cost of tuition and fees required for officers to enroll in 30 semester credit hours of junior or senior-level coursework at the university. The loans would be paid from a trust fund, which is outside the treasury but is held in trust by the comptroller. Gifts and grants as well as state appropriations may be used to fund the program. Under provisions of the bill, the Coordinating Board may use 2.5 percent of the total amount in the funds to cover the costs of administering the program.

Sam Houston State University reported 409 graduates in Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice & Safety for fiscal year 2008. For purposes of this fiscal note it is assumed that 5% of these graduates will meet the eligibility requirements of the program, or approximately 20 graduates per year. The Higher Education Coordinating Board indicates that the cost of tuition and fees at \$5,904 per year resulting in scholarship awards of approximately \$118,000 per year. It is also assumed for purposes of this fiscal note that the Higher Education Coordinating Board will find the resources to support the loan program as the bill does not expressly require the State to support the trust fund.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 696 Department of Criminal Justice, 758 Texas State University System, 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board

LBB Staff: JOB, ESi, RT, GO

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT STATEMENT

81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 17, 2009

TO: Honorable Jim McReynolds, Chair, House Committee on Corrections

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB518 by Kolkhorst (Relating to a pilot program to provide student loan repayment assistance to certain correctional officers who graduate from Sam Houston State University or certain other institutions of higher education.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No significant impact on the programs and workload of state corrections agencies or on the demand for resources and services of those agencies is anticipated from any provisions of this bill that authorize or require a change in the sanctions applicable to adults convicted of felony crimes.

Source Agencies:

LBB Staff: JOB, GG, TMP

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT STATEMENT

81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 13, 2009

TO: Honorable Jim McReynolds, Chair, House Committee on Corrections

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB518 by Kolkhorst (Relating to a pilot program to provide student loan repayment assistance to certain correctional officers who graduate from Sam Houston State University or certain other institutions of higher education.), **As Introduced**

No significant impact on the programs and workload of state corrections agencies or on the demand for resources and services of those agencies is anticipated from any provisions of this bill that authorize or require a change in the sanctions applicable to adults convicted of felony crimes.

Source Agencies:

LBB Staff: JOB, GG

