

# STATE OF NEW YORK

6754

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

March 11, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. SIMONE -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. COLTON, COOK, DeSTEFANO, LAVINE, PALMESANO, SAYEGH, SIMON, TAYLOR -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Employees

AN ACT to amend the civil service law, in relation to use of accrued vacation time

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The civil service law is amended by adding a new section  
2 159-e to read as follows:

3 § 159-e. Use of accrued vacation time towards student loan payments.

4 1. Every public officer, employee of this state, county, community  
5 college, public authority, public benefit corporation, board of cooper-  
6 ative educational services (BOCES), vocational education and extension  
7 board, school district enumerated in section one of chapter five hundred  
8 sixty-six of the laws of nineteen hundred sixty-seven, municipality,  
9 school district or participating employer in the New York state and  
10 local employees' retirement system or a participating employer in the  
11 New York state teachers' retirement system shall be entitled to use  
12 accrued vacation time toward the payment of student loans.

13 2. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any employees  
14 subject to a collective bargaining agreement as of the effective date of  
15 this section. An employee organization may, pursuant to collective  
16 bargaining, opt in to the provisions of this section on behalf of those  
17 public employees it is either certified or recognized to represent,  
18 within the meaning of article fourteen of this chapter, or may alterna-  
19 tively bargain for benefits greater or less than those provided for by  
20 this section. An employee organization that has opted in to the  
21 provisions of this section may, pursuant to collective bargaining, opt  
22 out of it as is mutually agreed upon between the employee organization  
23 and any public employer.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 3. Nothing set forth in this section shall be construed to impede,  
2 infringe or diminish the rights and benefits that accrue to employees  
3 and employers through collective bargaining agreements, or otherwise  
4 diminish the integrity of the collective bargaining relationship.

5 4. For the purposes of this section:

6 a. "Student loan" shall mean any loan to a borrower to finance postse-  
7 condary education or expenses related to postsecondary education.

8 b. "Federal student loan" means (i) any student loan issued pursuant  
9 to the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program; (ii) any student  
10 loan issued pursuant to the Federal Family Education Loan Program, which  
11 was purchased by the government of the United States pursuant to the  
12 federal Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act and is presently  
13 owned by the government of the United States; and (iii) any other  
14 student loan issued pursuant to a federal program that is identified by  
15 the superintendent as a "federal student loan" in a regulation.

16 5. The president shall promulgate any rules and regulations necessary  
17 for the implementation of this section.

18 § 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after  
19 it shall have become a law.