S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

5558

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 13, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. V. LOPEZ, CLARK, BARRA, ALFANO -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. BRENNAN, GANTT, LENTOL, SWEENEY, TOWNS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to establish a program of tuition abatement for eligible Hispanic and Black students attending the schools of social welfare at Stony Brook and at Albany for study in the field of social work and making an appropriation therefor

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. a. There is hereby established within the state education department under the supervision of the board of regents a program of tuition abatement for eligible Hispanic and Black students for undergraduate study in the field of social work at the school of social welfare at Stony Brook and the school of social welfare at Albany, such program to provide tuition assistance in the form of full tuition abatement at the state university of New York at Stony Brook and at Albany.

b. Such program shall be administered in accordance with the following guidelines: (1) The commissioner of education shall assign responsibility for this program to such personnel employed by the department as will effectuate the intent and purposes of this act under such policies and procedures as may be established in this program;

(2) Not more than forty tuition abatement awards shall be awarded each year for the college years beginning 2009-2010, twenty of which shall be awarded to eligible students attending the school of social welfare at Stony Brook and twenty of which shall be awarded to eligible students attending the school of social welfare at Albany, as certified by the commissioner;

(3) Awards shall be made available for three years of study in the field of social work;

(4) Awards shall be granted for the amount of tuition and educational fees due and payable to the school of social welfare at Stony Brook and

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

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to the school of social welfare at Albany for each college year that the award recipient is eligible;

(5) Pursuant to regulations promulgated by the commissioner, awards shall be awarded to ten Hispanic students and ten Black students from each school of social welfare each year for a period of three years. Such regulations shall include, but not be limited to the following eligibility criteria for award recipients;

(i) residency in the state;

(ii) a personal statement expressing an intention to pursue study in the field of social work;

(iii) satisfactory academic achievement; and

(iv) the financial need of the student.

(6) The state universities at Stony Brook and at Albany are hereby authorized to and shall permit these forty individuals who accept participation in this program to enroll in the school of social welfare at Stony Brook and the school of social welfare at Albany without payment of tuition for a period of three years.

S 2. The sum of four hundred thirty-two thousand dollars ($432,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the department of education from any moneys in the state treasury in the general fund to the credit of the local assistance account not otherwise appropriated for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this act. Such sum shall be payable on the audit and warrant of the state comptroller on vouchers certified or approved in the manner provided by law.

S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.