STATE OF NEW YORK

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5552

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

April 11, 2017
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Introduced by Sen. RITCHIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when
printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to providing loan
forgiveness for mental health nurses

   *The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assem-
bly, do enact as follows:*

 1   Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 679-h
 2 to read as follows:
 3   *§ 679-h. New York state mental health nurse loan forgiveness incentive*
 4 *program. 1. Purpose. The president shall grant student loan forgiveness*
 5 *awards for the purpose of alleviating the burden of student loan debt*
 6 *for mental health nurses in New York state. Such awards shall be made on*
 7 *a competitive basis as promulgated by the corporation for such purposes,*
 8 *to applicants who meet the eligibility criteria. Such rules and regu-*
 9 *lations shall include provisions for the consideration of applicants who*
10 *are economically disadvantaged.*
11   *2. Eligibility. To be eligible for an award pursuant to this section,*
12 *applicants shall:*
13   *(a) have graduated and obtained a degree from an approved New York*
14 *state college or university;*
15   *(b) have an outstanding student loan debt from obtaining such degree;*
16   *(c) be employed as a mental health nurse in New York state;*
17   *(d) apply for this program within two years of college graduation; and*
18   *(e) comply with subdivisions three and five of section six hundred*
19 *sixty-one of this part.*
20   *3. Awards. The corporation shall grant such awards within amounts*
21 *appropriated for such purposes and based on the availability of funds.*
22   § 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
23 have become a law.

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

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