

# STATE OF NEW YORK

6458

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

April 29, 2021

Introduced by Sen. COONEY -- 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 student financial aid programs

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision 9 of section 605 of the education law is  
2 amended by adding a new paragraph g to read as follows:

3 g. A period of leave without pay, or other periods which an eligible  
4 applicant is not in a pay status shall not count toward the completion  
5 of the required service period reemployment. The service completion date  
6 shall be extended by the total time spent in non-pay status. However,  
7 absence because of uniformed service with a recognized branch of the  
8 United States military, authorized maternity/paternity, FMLA, or due to  
9 compensable injury shall be considered creditable, within the sole  
10 discretion of the president, toward the required service period of reem-  
11 ployment.

12 § 2. Subpart 4 of part 2 of article 14 of the education law is amended  
13 by adding a new section 679-k to read as follows:

14 § 679-k. Loan forgiveness eligibility. For all loan forgiveness  
15 programs referenced in this subpart, a period of leave without pay, or  
16 other periods which an eligible applicant is not in a pay status shall  
17 not count toward the completion of the required service period reemploy-  
18 ment. The service completion date shall be extended by the total time  
19 spent in non-pay status. However, absence because of uniformed service  
20 with a recognized branch of the United States military, authorized  
21 maternity/paternity, FMLA, or due to compensable injury shall be consid-  
22 ered creditable, within the sole discretion of the president, toward the  
23 required service period of reemployment.

24 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall be deemed to  
25 have been in full force and effect on and after January 1, 2010.

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

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