STATE OF NEW YORK

859--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

(Prefiled)

January 6, 2021

Introduced by Sen. GOUNARDES -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Labor -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to student loan repayment information

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

Section 1. The labor law is amended by adding a new section 217-a to read as follows:

§ 217-a. Student loan repayment information to be provided. 1. The commissioner, in consultation with the president of the higher education services corporation, and the superintendent of financial services, shall develop a notice, pamphlet or other written materials regarding responsibilities and repayment options for student loans. Such materials shall include information about consolidation and alternative federal student loan repayment plans, including income-based programs, that do not require consolidating existing federal student loans, that may be available to borrowers. Such materials shall also provide direction to additional resources including the website for the department of financial services' student lending resource center. Additional materials shall be developed in the same manner regarding public service loan forgiveness or repayment programs.

2. Every employer in the state shall provide upon hiring, to any person hired for a post-graduate internship or an entry-level position of employment that requires an associate's degree or higher, on or after the effective date of this section a notice with regard to repayment of student loans developed in accordance with this section, provided that public employers shall additionally provide a notice regarding public service loan forgiveness or repayment programs.

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

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3. (a) "Student loan" means any loan to a borrower to finance post-secondary education or expenses related to post-secondary education.

(b) "Borrower" means any resident of this state who has received a student loan or agreed in writing to pay a student loan or any person who shares a legal obligation with such resident for repaying a student loan.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, any rules and regulations necessary for the timely implementation of this act on its effective date shall be promulgated on or before such effective date.