As Introduced

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H. B. No. 521

Representative Sweeney

Cosponsors: Representatives Blair, Brown, Boyd, Cera, Crossman, Denson, Galonski, Ingram, Kelly, Leland, Lepore-Hagan, Lightbody, Liston, Miller, J., Miranda, O'Brien, Patterson, Skindell, Sobecki, Smith, K., Sykes, Upchurch, Weinstein, West

A BILL

To enact section 3333.0417 of the Revised Code to require the Chancellor of Higher Education and public service organizations to disseminate information regarding the federal public service loan forgiveness programs.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 3333.0417 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 3333.0417. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Public service organization" has the same meaning as in section 685.619 of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations, 34 C.F.R. 685.219.

(2) "Employment certification form" means the form used by the United States department of education to certify an individual's employment at a public service organization for the purposes of the public service loan forgiveness program.
(3) "Public service loan forgiveness program" means the loan forgiveness program established under 20 U.S.C. 1087e(m).

(4) "Teacher loan forgiveness program" means a loan forgiveness program established under 20 U.S.C. 1078-10.

(B) The chancellor of higher education shall create and distribute informational materials regarding the public service loan forgiveness program and teacher loan forgiveness program to public service organizations. Informational materials shall be published on the department of higher education's web site and updated each biennium. Materials shall include all of the following:

(1) A letter to notify public employees of the eligibility requirements of the public service and teacher loan forgiveness programs and to recommend that public employees contact a student loan servicer for additional information;

(2) A fact sheet that outlines the public service and teacher loan forgiveness programs and contains contact information for the chancellor;

(3) Frequently asked questions concerning the public service and teacher loan forgiveness programs;

(4) Any document published by a federal agency regarding student loan forgiveness as determined by the chancellor.

(C) A public service organization shall post the fact sheet described under division (B)(1) of this section in a conspicuous location on its premises and provide the following to its employees:

(1) The informational materials described under division (B) of this section not later than two weeks after an employee's
start date;

(2) Upon request, a copy of the employment certification form.