

As Introduced

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S. B. No. 181

Senator Coley

**Cosponsors: Senators Hackett, Hoagland, Huffman, M., Huffman, S., McColley,
Rulli, Schaffer, Terhar, Uecker, Williams, Wilson**

A BILL

To enact section 3333.93 of the Revised Code to 1
require the Chancellor of Higher Education to 2
create a template for workforce-education 3
partnership programs. 4

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

Section 1. That section 3333.93 of the Revised Code be 5
enacted to read as follows: 6

Sec. 3333.93. (A) As used in this section, "college or 7
university" means both of the following: 8

(1) A state institution of higher education as defined in 9
section 3345.011 of the Revised Code. 10

(2) A private college as defined in section 3365.01 of the 11
Revised Code. 12

(B) A college or university and employers may establish a 13
workforce-education partnership program to provide assistance to 14
students to allow the students to graduate from the college or 15
university with no student loan indebtedness. The chancellor of 16

higher education shall create a template for a college or 17
university and employers to use to establish a program. The 18
chancellor shall consult with state and local workforce and 19
economic development agencies to develop the template and 20
include all of the following in the template: 21

(1) The process for an employer to participate in the 22
program; 23

(2) A requirement that, to be eligible to participate in 24
the program, a student be enrolled in a degree-granting program 25
at a college or university on at least a half-time basis, as 26
determined by the chancellor, and be a paid employee of an 27
employer participating in the program; 28

(3) The process for an eligible student under division (B) 29
(2) of this section to enroll in the program; 30

(4) Guidance for the college or university to designate a 31
mentor to assist students within the college or university; 32

(5) Guidance for an employer to designate a mentor to 33
assist students at the employer's workplace; 34

(6) Guidance for the college or university and employers 35
to create a process to make a housing stipend available to 36
students enrolled in the program; 37

(7) Guidance for the college or university and employers 38
to make life management and professional skills training 39
available to students enrolled in the program; 40

(8) A requirement that an employer establish an 41
educational assistance program pursuant to section 127 of the 42
"Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 26 U.S.C. 127 and provide 43
tuition assistance for a student enrolled at the college or 44

university while working for the employer, up to the maximum 45
amount that the employer may exclude from the employer's gross 46
income under that section; 47

(9) A requirement that the college or university work with 48
students enrolled in the program to ensure that the students 49
have applied for and are receiving the maximum amount of 50
financial aid, in the form of scholarships and grants, that the 51
students are eligible to receive to cover the student's costs to 52
attend the college or university; 53

(10) A requirement that the college or university and 54
employers seek out additional sources of funding to cover any 55
remaining costs to attend the college or university that are not 56
covered under divisions (B) (8) and (9) of this section for 57
students enrolled in the program. 58

(C) The chancellor shall evaluate the effectiveness of the 59
workforce-education partnership programs established under this 60
section to determine whether additional training and employment 61
programs may use the template created in division (B) of this 62
section to establish a workforce-education partnership program. 63