

SENATE BILL No. 400

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 31-9-2-47.6; IC 31-25.

Synopsis: Student loan forgiveness for child service workers. Establishes the department of child services student loan forgiveness fund (fund) to provide grants for student loan repayment assistance to eligible department of child services (DCS): (1) family case managers; and (2) supervisors. Provides that DCS administers the fund. Requires an applicant to: (1) be employed by DCS as a family case manager or supervisor; and (2) have been employed by DCS as a family case manager or supervisor for at least three years immediately preceding the application; to be eligible for student loan repayment assistance. Provides that a family case manager or supervisor may not receive more than four grants for student loan repayment assistance through the fund.

Effective: July 1, 2019.

Melton

January 14, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Appropriations.



First Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2019)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2018 Regular and Special Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 400

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning family law and juvenile law.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 31-9-2-47.6, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,
2 SECTION 196, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 47.6. (a) **"Fund", for purposes of**
4 **IC 31-25-6, has the meaning set forth in IC 31-25-6-2.**

5 (b) "Fund", for purposes of IC 31-26-4, has the meaning set forth in
6 IC 31-26-4-3.

7 SECTION 2. IC 31-25-2-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.104-2015,
8 SECTION 15, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
9 JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 7. (a) The department is responsible for the
10 following:

- 11 (1) Providing child protection services under this article.
- 12 (2) Providing and administering child abuse and neglect
13 prevention services.
- 14 (3) Providing and administering child services.
- 15 (4) Providing and administering family services.
- 16 (5) Providing family preservation services under IC 31-26-5.
- 17 (6) Regulating and licensing the following under IC 31-27:



- 1 (A) Child caring institutions.
 2 (B) Foster family homes.
 3 (C) Group homes.
 4 (D) Child placing agencies.
 5 (7) Administering the state's plan for the administration of Title
 6 IV-D of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 651 et seq.).
 7 (8) Administering foster care services.
 8 (9) Administering successful adulthood services (as described in
 9 42 U.S.C. 677 et seq.).
 10 (10) Administering adoption and guardianship services.
 11 (11) Certifying and providing grants to the youth services bureaus
 12 under IC 31-26-1.
 13 (12) Administering the project safe program.
 14 (13) Paying for programs and services as provided under
 15 IC 31-40.
 16 (14) Obtaining on an annual basis a consumer report, as defined
 17 in 42 U.S.C. 1681a(d), for each child at least fourteen (14) years
 18 of age who is in state foster care.
 19 **(15) Administering the department of child services student**
 20 **loan forgiveness fund established by IC 31-25-6-3.**
 21 (b) This chapter does not authorize or require the department to:
 22 (1) investigate or report on proceedings under IC 31-17-2 relating
 23 to a child who is not the subject of an open child in need of
 24 services case under IC 31-34; or
 25 (2) otherwise monitor child custody or visitation in dissolution of
 26 marriage proceedings.
 27 (c) This chapter does not authorize or require the department to:
 28 (1) conduct home studies; or
 29 (2) otherwise participate in guardianship proceedings under
 30 IC 29-3;
 31 other than those over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction under
 32 IC 29-3-2-1(c) or IC 31-30-1-1(10).
 33 SECTION 3. IC 31-25-6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
 34 A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
 35 1, 2019]:
 36 **Chapter 6. Department of Child Services Student Loan**
 37 **Forgiveness Fund**
 38 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "eligible department employee"**
 39 **means an individual who meets the requirements of section 4(a) of**
 40 **this chapter.**
 41 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "fund" means the department of**
 42 **child services student loan forgiveness fund established by section**



- 1 **3 of this chapter.**
2 **Sec. 3. (a) The department of child services student loan**
3 **forgiveness fund is established to provide annual grants for student**
4 **loan repayment assistance authorized under this chapter.**
5 **(b) The department shall administer the fund.**
6 **(c) The fund consists of:**
7 **(1) appropriations by the general assembly;**
8 **(2) grants to the fund; and**
9 **(3) gifts and bequests to the fund.**
10 **(d) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from**
11 **money in the fund.**
12 **(e) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not**
13 **revert to the state general fund.**
14 **Sec. 4. (a) Subject to subsection (b), to be eligible for a student**
15 **loan repayment assistance grant under this chapter, an individual**
16 **must:**
17 **(1) be employed by the department; and**
18 **(2) have been employed by the department for at least three**
19 **(3) years immediately preceding the grant application;**
20 **as a family case manager or supervisor.**
21 **(b) An eligible department employee may be awarded not more**
22 **than four (4) grants under this chapter.**
23 **(c) An application for a grant under this chapter must be made**
24 **on a form supplied by the department.**
25 **Sec. 5. The amount of student loan repayment assistance**
26 **awarded to an eligible department employee under this chapter in**
27 **any one (1) year may not exceed the lesser of the following**
28 **amounts:**
29 **(1) The total principal and interest of the student loans owed**
30 **by the eligible department employee.**
31 **(2) Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).**
32 **Sec. 6. An applicant for a grant under this chapter shall provide**
33 **to the department any information that the department determines**
34 **is necessary to administer this chapter.**

