THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 708

Session of 2003

INTRODUCED BY SCHWARTZ, MUSTO, RHOADES, MELLOW, COSTA, ORIE, KUKOVICH, BOSCOLA, TARTAGLIONE, C. WILLIAMS, GREENLEAF, WOZNIAK, CORMAN, STACK, LAVALLE, EARLL, MOWERY, FUMO, A. WILLIAMS, M. WHITE, DENT, LOGAN, O'PAKE, STOUT, HUGHES, KITCHEN, CONTI, KASUNIC, FERLO, WAGNER, WONDERLING, HELFRICK AND TOMLINSON, MAY 9, 2003

SENATOR RHOADES, EDUCATION, AS AMENDED, JUNE 18, 2003

AN ACT

- 1 Amending the act of December 17, 1993 (P.L.487, No.73), entitled 2 "An act providing the Early Childhood Education Professional
- 3 Loan Forgiveness Program for Pennsylvania residents who
- 4 graduate from institutions of higher education and who apply
- 5 their educational training to positions in approved child-
- cheff educational chaining to positions in approved third
- 6 care facilities in this Commonwealth," further providing for
- 7 definitions; and making an appropriation.
- 8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 9 hereby enacts as follows:
- 10 Section 1. Section 2 of the act of December 17, 1993
- 11 (P.L.487, No.73), known as the Early Childhood Education
- 12 Professional Loan Forgiveness Act, is amended to read:
- 13 Section 2. Definitions.
- 14 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
- 15 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 16 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 17 "Agency." The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance
- 18 Agency.

- 1 "Approved child-care facility." A child day-care center
- 2 [or], group day-care home, family child day-care home or Head
- 3 Start Program, located in this Commonwealth which is subject to
- 4 and in compliance with regulations issued by the Department of
- 5 Public Welfare.
- 6 "Program." The Early Childhood Education Professional Loan
- 7 Forgiveness Program.
- 8 "Qualified applicant." A person who meets the following
- 9 criteria:
- 10 (1) Has successfully completed an undergraduate program
- 11 at an accredited college or university.
- 12 (2) Has:
- 13 <u>(i) received</u> a bachelor's degree [and has] <u>in early</u>
- 14 <u>childhood education;</u>
- 15 (ii) received a bachelor's degree in elementary
- 16 <u>education and</u> obtained Pennsylvania State Early Childhood
- 17 Education Certification (nursery through third grade)
- 18 [or]; or
- 19 <u>(iii) received</u> an associate's degree in early
- 20 childhood education or child development.
- 21 (3) Has borrowed through [the agency-administered
- 22 Guaranteed Student Loan Programs] AND HAS A CURRENT
- 23 OUTSTANDING BALANCE WITH THE AGENCY-GUARANTEED STAFFORD OR
- 24 <u>CONSOLIDATED LOAN PROGRAMS</u>.
- 25 (4) Is a resident of this Commonwealth.
- 26 (5) Executes a sworn affidavit, under penalty of
- 27 perjury, that he does not have a delinquent payment owing to
- any Commonwealth agency.
- 29 (6) Receives a salary of less than [\$18,500] \$26,000.
- 30 Section 2. The sum of \$1,250,000, or as much thereof as may

- 1 be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the Pennsylvania Higher
- 2 Education Assistance Agency for the fiscal year July 1, 2003, to
- 3 June 30, 2004, to carry out the provisions of the act.
- 4 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003, or
- 5 immediately, whichever is later.