## **HOUSE BILL 1061**

F2 3lr2662

By: Delegate Kaiser

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Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2023

Assigned to: Appropriations

	A BILL ENTITLED
1	AN ACT concerning
2 3	Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program – Private Company Employees With a Master's Degree in Social Work – Eligible Employment
4 5 6 7	FOR the purpose of including as eligible employment for the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program employment with a private company in a public facing role of individuals who have earned a master's degree in social work; and generally relating to the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program.
8 9 10 11 12	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Education Section 18–1502 Annotated Code of Maryland (2022 Replacement Volume)
13 14	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
15	Article – Education
16	18–1502.
17 18	(a) There is a program of loan assistance repayment known as the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program in the State.
19 20	(b) The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall assist in the repayment of the amount of any higher education loan owed by an individual who:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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(1)

(i)



Receives a graduate, professional, or undergraduate degree from:

A college or university in the State of Maryland; or

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Nancy Grasmick Teacher Scholar.

1	2. A school of law; or
2 3 4	(ii) Receives a Resident Teacher Certificate (RTC) from the Department after completing an alternative teaching preparation program approved by the State Superintendent;
5 6 7	(2) Obtains eligible employment, INCLUDING EMPLOYMENT WITH A PRIVATE COMPANY IN A PUBLIC FACING ROLE, IF THE EMPLOYEE HAS A MASTER'S DEGREE IN SOCIAL WORK;
8 9	(3) Receives an income that is less than the maximum eligible total income levels established by the Office, including any additional sources of income; and
10	(4) Satisfies any other criteria established by the Office.
11 12 13	(c) Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, the Office shall assist in the repayment of the amount of any higher education loan owed by a public school teacher in the State who:
14	(1) Has taught in Maryland for at least 2 years:
15	(i) In science, technology, engineering, fine arts, or math subjects;
16 17	(ii) In a school in which at least the following percentages of the students are enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program in the State:
18	1. 75% through June 30, 2025; and
19	2. 55% beginning July 1, 2025; or
20	(iii) In a school that:
21	1. Had Title I status during the 2018–2019 school year;
22	2. Lost Title I status after the 2018–2019 school year; and
23 24	3. Participates in the United States Department of Agriculture Community Eligibility Provision; and
25 26	(2) Has received the highest performance evaluation rating for the most recent year available in the county in which the teacher taught.
27 28	(d) (1) A grant awarded under subsection (c) of this section shall be known as the Nancy Grasmick Teacher Award.
29	(2) A recipient of a Nancy Grasmick Teacher Award shall be known as a

(e) An applicant for assistance in the repayment of a commercial loan shall demonstrate to the Office that the commercial loan was used for tuition, educational expenses, or living expenses for graduate or undergraduate study.

- (f) Assistance in the repayment of a loan from an entity set forth in § 18–1501(c)(2) of this subtitle shall require the approval of the Office.
- (g) Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, the Office shall assist in the repayment of the amount of any higher education loan owed by a licensed clinical alcohol and drug counselor, a licensed clinical marriage and family therapy counselor, or a licensed clinical professional counselor whose practice is located in a high–need geographic area of the State as determined by the Maryland Department of Health.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2023.