

As Introduced

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Representative Wolpert

**Cosponsors: Representatives Stewart, J., Uecker, Gibbs, Seitz, Fende,
Combs, Collier, Stebelton**

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A B I L L

To amend sections 184.02 and 3345.32 and to enact 1
sections 184.30, 184.31, 184.32, 184.33, 184.34, 2
and 184.35 of the Revised Code to establish the 3
Third Frontier Pilot Forgivable Loan Program for 4
graduate students. 5

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

Section 1. That sections 184.02 and 3345.32 be amended and 6
sections 184.30, 184.31, 184.32, 184.33, 184.34, and 184.35 of the 7
Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 8

Sec. 184.02. (A) In addition to the powers and duties under 9
sections 184.10 to 184.20 of the Revised Code, the third frontier 10
commission may perform any act to ensure the performance of any 11
function necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of, 12
and exercise the powers granted under, ~~sections 184.01 and 184.02~~ 13
~~of the Revised Code this chapter.~~ In addition, the commission may 14
do any of the following: 15

(1) Adopt, amend, and rescind rules under section 111.15 of 16
the Revised Code for the administration of any aspect of its 17
operations; 18

(2) Adopt bylaws governing its operations, including bylaws that establish procedures and set policies as may be necessary to assist with the furtherance of its purposes;	19 20 21
(3) Appoint and set the compensation of employees needed to carry out its duties;	22 23
(4) Contract with, retain the services of, or designate, and fix the compensation of, such financial consultants, accountants, other consultants and advisors, and other independent contractors as may be necessary or desirable to carry out its duties;	24 25 26 27
(5) Solicit input and comments from the third frontier advisory board, and specialized industry, professional, and other relevant interest groups concerning its purposes;	28 29 30
(6) Facilitate alignment of the state's science and technology programs and activities;	31 32
(7) Make grants and loans to individuals, public agencies, private companies or organizations, or joint ventures for any of the broad range of activities related to its purposes.	33 34 35
(B) In addition to the powers and duties under sections 184.10 to 184.20 of the Revised Code, the commission shall do all of the following:	36 37 38
(1) Establish a competitive process for the award of grants and loans that is designed to fund the most meritorious proposals and, when appropriate, provide for peer review of proposals;	39 40 41
(2) Within ninety days after the end of each fiscal year, submit to the governor and the general assembly a report of the activities of the commission during the preceding fiscal year;	42 43 44
(3) With specific application to the biomedical research and technology transfer trust fund, periodically make strategic assessments of the types of state investments in biomedical research and biotechnology in the state that would likely create	45 46 47 48

jobs and business opportunities in the state and produce the most 49
beneficial long-term improvements to the public health of Ohioans, 50
including, but not limited to, biomedical research and 51
biotechnology initiatives that address tobacco-related illnesses 52
as may be outlined in any master agreement. The commission shall 53
award grants and loans from the fund pursuant to a process 54
established under division (B)(1) of this section. 55

Sec. 184.30. As used in sections 184.30 to 184.35 of the 56
Revised Code: 57

(A) "Approved field of study" includes a field of study in 58
engineering, chemistry, physics, computer sciences, biomedical 59
technologies, or other field that directly relates to the goals of 60
the third frontier, as determined by the third frontier 61
commission. 62

(B) "Ohio institution of higher education" means both of the 63
following: 64

(1) A state university, as defined in section 3345.011 of the 65
Revised Code; 66

(2) An institution authorized by the Ohio board of regents 67
under Chapter 1713. of the Revised Code to grant master's or 68
doctorate degrees in an approved field of study and that is 69
accredited by the appropriate regional, and when appropriate, 70
professional accrediting associations within whose jurisdiction it 71
falls. 72

(C) "Student" means an individual, of any citizenship status, 73
enrolled at an Ohio institution of higher education in a master's 74
or doctorate degree program in an approved field of study. 75

Sec. 184.31. The third frontier pilot forgivable loan program 76
is hereby established. The purpose of the program is to encourage 77
graduate students to accept employment in Ohio in a career related 78

to the goals of the third frontier after receipt of a master's or 79
doctorate degree in approved fields of study. Under the program, a 80
maximum of five hundred loans may be awarded in an academic year 81
to students pursuing master's or doctorate degrees in approved 82
fields of study. Each loan shall be in an amount of eight thousand 83
dollars per year, provided the general assembly appropriates 84
sufficient funds for the program. Loan amounts may be forgiven as 85
provided in section 184.33 of the Revised Code. 86

The program shall be administered by the third frontier 87
commission, in consultation with the third frontier advisory 88
board. 89

Within sixty days after the end of five years of operation of 90
the program, the third frontier commission shall submit a written 91
report to the governor and the general assembly that provides 92
information as to the effectiveness of the program in encouraging 93
students to accept employment in Ohio that directly relates to the 94
goals of the third frontier. 95

Sec. 184.32. (A) In each academic year in which the general 96
assembly appropriates sufficient funds, the third frontier 97
commission shall award a loan of eight thousand dollars to not 98
more than five hundred students, on a competitive basis. 99

To qualify for a loan under this section, a student shall do 100
all of the following: 101

(1) Submit an application to the commission that demonstrates 102
all of the following: 103

(a) Current or acceptance for enrollment in an Ohio 104
institution of higher education on a full-time basis for the 105
purpose of pursuing a master's or doctorate degree in an approved 106
field of study; 107

(b) If currently enrolled, a status of good standing with the 108

<u>Ohio institution of higher education;</u>	109
<u>(c) If currently enrolled, maintenance of a minimum grade</u>	110
<u>point average comparable to a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.</u>	111
<u>(2) Submit evidence satisfactory to the commission describing</u>	112
<u>how the student's completion of a master's or doctorate degree in</u>	113
<u>an approved field of study can benefit Ohio's economy and the</u>	114
<u>goals of the third frontier. Evidence submitted may include a</u>	115
<u>written essay, letters of recommendation from faculty and business</u>	116
<u>leaders, and academic publications to which the student</u>	117
<u>contributed.</u>	118
<u>(3) Comply with any other application requirements prescribed</u>	119
<u>by the commission in rules adopted under section 184.35 of the</u>	120
<u>Revised Code.</u>	121
<u>(B) Loan proceeds shall be disbursed to the students in equal</u>	122
<u>amounts over an academic year, in a manner determined by rules of</u>	123
<u>the commission.</u>	124
<u>(C) A student who receives a loan in one academic year has</u>	125
<u>priority to receive additional loan amounts in subsequent academic</u>	126
<u>years, provided the student continues to satisfy the requirements</u>	127
<u>of division (A) of this section. However, no student may receive a</u>	128
<u>loan for more than five academic years.</u>	129
<u>(D) All applications for loans through this program shall be</u>	130
<u>submitted to the third frontier commission by the fifteenth day of</u>	131
<u>March preceding the academic year for which a loan is sought.</u>	132
<u>Applications shall be submitted in the form and manner prescribed</u>	133
<u>in rules adopted by the commission under section 184.35 of the</u>	134
<u>Revised Code, and shall be accompanied by any additional materials</u>	135
<u>required by the rules.</u>	136
<u>Sec. 184.33. (A) Repayment of any loan amounts awarded under</u>	137
<u>section 184.32 of the Revised Code shall be deferred during the</u>	138

<u>following periods:</u>	139
<u>(1) While a student continues to satisfy the requirements specified in divisions (A)(1)(a) to (c) of section 184.32 of the Revised Code;</u>	140 141 142
<u>(2) For six months following the student's completion of a master's or doctorate degree from an Ohio institution of higher education in an approved field of study;</u>	143 144 145
<u>(3) During a period of demonstrated financial hardship, as determined by rules adopted by the third frontier commission.</u>	146 147
<u>(B) The third frontier commission shall not require a loan recipient to make repayments on a loan awarded under section 184.32 of the Revised Code and shall forgive amounts of such a loan under division (C) of this section if the recipient provides to the commission's satisfaction evidence of all of the following:</u>	148 149 150 151 152
<u>(1) The recipient has been awarded a master's or doctorate degree from an Ohio institution of higher education in an approved field of study.</u>	153 154 155
<u>(2) Within six months of the award of a master's or doctorate degree from an Ohio institution of higher education in an approved field of study, the recipient has either:</u>	156 157 158
<u>(a) Accepted employment in Ohio with an Ohio entity engaging the recipient in a position directly related to the goals of the third frontier, as determined by the third frontier commission. Acceptable employment may include employment on the faculty of an Ohio institution of higher education, with a private Ohio company receiving funds from the third frontier commission, or with the state of Ohio, provided the position directly relates to the goals of the third frontier, as determined by the commission. To qualify as acceptable employment, a position need not directly relate to the recipient's approved field of study, so long as the position relates to the goals of the third frontier, as determined by the</u>	159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169

<u>commission.</u>	170
<u>(b) Started a business in Ohio that directly relates to the goals of the third frontier, as determined by the commission.</u>	171 172
<u>(3) The recipient continues to remain employed in a position in Ohio that directly relates to the goals of the third frontier, as determined by the commission, while an outstanding loan balance exists.</u>	173 174 175 176
<u>(4) The recipient is a resident of Ohio for purposes of Title LVII of the Revised Code.</u>	177 178
<u>(C) If a recipient reports to the commission's satisfaction that the recipient fulfills all of the requirements of division (B) of this section, the commission shall forgive one thousand dollars of loan amounts awarded under section 184.32 of the Revised Code ninety-one days after the date of first employment and one thousand dollars every ninety-one days thereafter, for as long as the recipient fulfills all requirements of that division, until the student no longer has any outstanding loan amounts.</u>	179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186
<u>(D) A recipient who does not qualify or ceases to qualify for a deferment of loan repayment or loan forgiveness under this section shall repay any outstanding loan amounts awarded under section 184.32 of the Revised Code to the third frontier commission in monthly payments, at an annual interest rate of six per cent compounded daily from the date loan amounts are disbursed. The maximum repayment schedule shall be for a period of five years.</u>	187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194
<u>(E) If a recipient who qualifies for loan forgiveness under divisions (B) and (C) of this section becomes unemployed, the recipient has ninety days from the date of unemployment to accept employment that meets the requirements of division (B)(2)(a) or (b) of this section to maintain eligibility for loan deferment and forgiveness. If the recipient fails to accept such employment</u>	195 196 197 198 199 200

within the ninety days, the student shall repay any outstanding 201
loan amounts as provided in division (D) of this section. 202

Sec. 184.34. The third frontier commission may accept gifts 203
of money from any source for the implementation and administration 204
of the third frontier pilot forgivable loan program under sections 205
184.30 to 184.35 of the Revised Code. 206

The commission shall pay all gifts and all loan repayments 207
into the state treasury, to the credit of the third frontier 208
forgivable loan fund, which is hereby created. The commission 209
shall use money in the fund to implement and administer sections 210
184.30 to 184.33 of the Revised Code. 211

Sec. 184.35. The third frontier commission shall adopt rules 212
to implement the third frontier pilot forgivable loan program 213
under sections 184.30 to 184.33 of the Revised Code. The rules 214
shall include provisions regarding the application procedure, 215
disbursement schedules of loan proceeds, loan repayment provisions 216
if a loan recipient is not eligible for loan forgiveness under 217
section 184.34 of the Revised Code, deferment of loan repayment 218
provisions for a recipient with demonstrated financial hardship, 219
reporting requirements in order to qualify for loan deferment or 220
forgiveness, and any other rules the commission considers 221
necessary for implementation and administration of the program. 222

Sec. 3345.32. (A) As used in this section: 223

(1) "State university or college" means the institutions 224
described in section 3345.27 of the Revised Code and the 225
northeastern Ohio universities college of medicine. 226

(2) "Resident" has the meaning specified by rule of the Ohio 227
board of regents. 228

(3) "Statement of selective service status" means a statement 229

certifying one of the following:	230
(a) That the individual filing the statement has registered	231
with the selective service system in accordance with the "Military	232
Selective Service Act," 62 Stat. 604, 50 U.S.C. App. 453, as	233
amended;	234
(b) That the individual filing the statement is not required	235
to register with the selective service for one of the following	236
reasons:	237
(i) The individual is under eighteen or over twenty-six years	238
of age.	239
(ii) The individual is on active duty with the armed forces	240
of the United States other than for training in a reserve or	241
national guard unit.	242
(iii) The individual is a nonimmigrant alien lawfully in the	243
United States in accordance with section 101 (a)(15) of the	244
"Immigration and Nationality Act," 8 U.S.C. 1101, as amended.	245
(iv) The individual is not a citizen of the United States and	246
is a permanent resident of the Trust Territory of the Pacific	247
Islands or the Northern Mariana Islands.	248
(4) "Institution of higher education" means any eligible	249
institution approved by the United States department of education	250
pursuant to the "Higher Education Act of 1965," 79 Stat. 1219, as	251
amended, or any institution whose students are eligible for	252
financial assistance under any of the programs described by	253
division (E) of this section.	254
(B) The Ohio board of regents shall, by rule, specify the	255
form of statements of selective service status to be filed in	256
compliance with divisions (C) to (F) (E) of this section. Each	257
statement of selective service status shall contain a section	258
wherein a male student born after December 31, 1959, certifies	259

that the student has registered with the selective service system 260
in accordance with the "Military Selective Service Act," 62 Stat. 261
604, 50 U.S.C. App. 453, as amended. For those students not 262
required to register with the selective service, as specified in 263
divisions (A)(2)(b)(i) to (iv) of this section, a section shall be 264
provided on the statement of selective service status for the 265
certification of nonregistration and for an explanation of the 266
reason for the exemption. The board of regents may require that 267
such statements be accompanied by documentation specified by rule 268
of the board. 269

(C) A state university or college that enrolls in any course, 270
class, or program a male student born after December 31, 1959, who 271
has not filed a statement of selective service status with the 272
university or college shall, regardless of the student's 273
residency, charge the student any tuition surcharge charged 274
students who are not residents of this state. 275

(D) No male born after December 31, 1959, shall be eligible 276
to receive any loan, grant, scholarship, or other financial 277
assistance for educational expenses under section 184.32, 3315.33, 278
3333.12, 3333.122, 3333.21, 3333.22, 3333.26, 3333.27, 5910.03, 279
5910.032, or 5919.34 of the Revised Code unless that person has 280
filed a statement of selective service status with that person's 281
institution of higher education. 282

(E) If an institution of higher education receives a 283
statement from an individual certifying that the individual has 284
registered with the selective service system in accordance with 285
the "Military Selective Service Act," 62 Stat. 604, 50 U.S.C. App. 286
453, as amended or that the individual is exempt from registration 287
for a reason other than that the individual is under eighteen 288
years of age, the institution shall not require the individual to 289
file any further statements. If it receives a statement certifying 290
that the individual is not required to register because the 291

individual is under eighteen years of age, the institution shall 292
require the individual to file a new statement of selective 293
service status each time the individual seeks to enroll for a new 294
academic term or makes application for a new loan or loan 295
guarantee or for any form of financial assistance for educational 296
expenses, until it receives a statement certifying that the 297
individual has registered with the selective service system or is 298
exempt from registration for a reason other than that the 299
individual is under eighteen years of age. 300

Section 2. That existing sections 184.02 and 3345.32 of the 301
Revised Code are hereby repealed. 302