**South Carolina General Assembly**

125th Session, 2023-2024

**H. 3402**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Wooten, Pope and McCravy

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Introduced in the House on January 10, 2023

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Ways and Means**

Summary: Law enforcement officer loan forgiveness

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 12/8/2022 House Prefiled

 12/8/2022 House Referred to Committee on **Ways and Means**

 1/10/2023 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal‑page 158)

 1/10/2023 House Referred to Committee on **Ways and Means** (House Journal‑page 158)

View the latest  [legislative information](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=3402&session=125&summary=B)  at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/08/2022](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/3402_20221208.docx)

A bill

TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION 23-23-200 SO AS TO PROVIDE CERTAIN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS QUALIFY FOR STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS, AND TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN APPROPRIATIONS TO FUND THIS PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Chapter 23, Title 23 of the S.C. Code is amended by adding:

 Section 23‑23‑200. (A) After five consecutive years of employment with the same law enforcement agency, a law enforcement officer initially hired or appointed by the agency after January 1, 2022, who has completed at least sixty credit hours or its equivalent at an accredited South Carolina institution of higher learning prior to becoming employed, may apply for student loan forgiveness in accordance with the guidelines set by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Training Council.

 (B) Loan forgiveness may not exceed the lessor of four thousand dollars or twenty percent of an officer’s unpaid balance per year. The maximum loan forgiveness may not exceed twenty thousand dollars over a five‑year period.

 (C) Each year the General Assembly shall appropriate funds from the general fund, as necessary, to fund the student loan forgiveness described in this section.

 (D) The council shall promulgate regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. The council also shall establish guidelines and procedures necessary to carry out the provisions of this section and publish those guidelines and procedures on its website.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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