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I NTRODUCED BY Luci ano "Lucky" Varel a

AN ACT
RELATI NG TO EDUCATI ON; CHANGI NG THE CALCULATI ON OF I NTEREST CHARGES FOR CERTAI N HI GHER EDUCATI ON LOAN PAYBACK PROGRAMS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEG SLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXI CO: Section 1. Section 21-22-6 NMSA 1978 (bei ng Laws 1975, Chapter 244, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:
"21-22-6. MEDI CAL STUDENT LOANS- - CONTRACT TERMS- REPAYMENT. --
A. Each applicant who is approved for a loan by the commi ssi on may be granted a loan, in such amounts and for such periods as determined by the commi ssion, with whi ch to defray expenses incurred in obtaining a medical education at any reputable and accredited medical school in the United St ates if the applicant files with the commission a decl aration of his intent to practice his profession as a licensed physician or . 154533. 2
physi ci an assi stant in areas of New Mexi co desi gnated as not being adequatel y served by medical practitioners.
B. The loans shall not exceed the necessary expenses incurred while attending a medi cal school or college and shall bear interest at the rate of:
(1) ei ght een percent per year if the student completes his medical education and no portion of the principal and interest is forgi ven pursuant to Subsection [E] F of this section; and
(2) seven percent per year in all other cases.
C. Loans made pursuant to the Medi cal St udent Loan for Service Act shall not accrue interest until:
(1) the commi ssi on determines the I oan reci pient has terminated the reci pient's redical education prior to completion;
(2) the commissi on determines the I oan reci pient has failed to fulfill the recipient's obligation to serve in a health professional shortage area; or
(3) the commission cancel s a cont ract bet ween a student and the commi ssi on pur suant to Section 21-22-9 NMSA 1978.
[C.] D. The I oan shall be evidenced by a contract bet ween the st udent and the commission acting on behalf of the state. The contract shall provide for the payment by the state of a stated sum covering the costs of a medical education and . 154533. 2
shall be conditioned upon the repayment of the I oan to the state [together with interest] over a period established by the commi ssion in consultation with the student after compl etion of medi cal school and any period of internship or resi dency requi red to compl ete the student's education. [The contract shall further provide that immediatel y upon completion or termination of the student's medical education, all interest then acerued shall be capitalized.
B.] E. Loans made to students who fail to complete thei $r$ medical education shall become due [together with interest] i mmedi atel $y$ upon termination of thei $r$ medi cal education. The commission, in consultation with the student, shall establish terns of repayment, alternate service or cancellation terms.
[E.] F. The contract shall provide that the commi ssi on shal l forgive a portion of the I oan [principal and interest] for each year that a loan reci pient practices his profession as a licensed physician or physician assistant in areas approved by the heal th prof essi on advi sory committee as not being adequatel y served by medi cal practitioners. [ Loan principal and interest] The loan shall be forgiven as follows:
(1) I oan terns of one year shall requi re one year of practice in a desi gnated heal th professional shortage area. Upon compl etion of service, one hundred percent of $t$ he [ principal plus accrued interest] Ioan shal I be forgiven;
(2) I oan terns of two years shall requi re one year of practice in a desi gnated heal th professional shortage area for each year of the loan. Upon completion of the first year of service, fifty percent of the [principal plus accrued interest] loan shall be forgi ven. Upon compl etion of the second year of service, the remai nder of the [principal plus accrued interest] Ioan shall be forgiven; and
(3) for I oan terns of three years or more, forty percent of the [principal plus accrued interest] Ioan shal l be forgi ven upon compl etion of the first year of service in a desi gnated health professional shortage area, thirty percent of the [principal plus acerued interest] I oan shall be forgiven upon compl etion of the second year of service and the remai nder of the [principal plus acerued interest] loan shall be forgi ven upon compl et ion of the third year of service.
[F.] G Reci pients shall serve a complete year in order to recei ve credit for that year. The mimimeredit for a year shall be established by the commi ssi on.
[G.] H. If a loan reci pi ent compl etes his professional education and does not serve in a heal th professional shortage area, the commi ssion shall assess a penalty of up to three times the principal due, pl us ei ghteen percent interest, unl ess the commission finds accept able extenuating circunstances for why the student cannot serve. If the commi ssi on does not find accept abl e ext enuating . 154533. 2
ci rcunstances for the student's failure to carry out his decl ared intent to serve in a heal th professional shortage area in the state, the commi ssi on shall requi re immedi ate repayment of the [ unpaid principal arount of the loan plus acerued interest owed the state] loan pl us the amount of any interest and penalty assessed pursuant to thi s subsection.
[H.] 1. The commission shall adopt regul ations to i mpl ement the provisions of this section. The regul ations may provi de for the repayment of redical student I oans in annual or ot her periodi c installments."

Section 2. Section 21-22A- 6 NMSA 1978 (bei ng Laws 1978, Chapter 109, Section 6 , as amended) is amended to read:
"21-22A-6. OSTEOPATHI C MEDI CAL STUDENT LOANS- - CONTRACT TERME- - REPAYMENT. - -
A. Each applicant who is approved for a loan by the commi ssi on may be granted a loan, in such amounts and for such periods as determined by the commi ssion, with which to defray expenses incurred in obtai ning an osteopathic medical education at any reputable and accredited osteopathic medi cal school in the United States if the applicant files with the commission a declaration of his intent to practice his profession as a I i censed osteopathic physician or osteopathic physi ci an's assi stant in areas of New Mexico desi gnated as not being adequatel y served by osteopathic medical practitioners.
B. The I oan shall not exceed the necessary expenses . 154533. 2
i ncurred while attending an osteopathic medical school or college or osteopathic physi cian's assi stant program and shal I bear interest at the rate of:
(1) ei ght een percent per year if the student completes his osteopathic medical education and no portion of the principal and interest is forgi ven pursuant to Subsection [E] $\underline{F}$ of this section; and
(2) seven percent per year in all other cases.
C. Loans made pursuant to the Osteopathic Medical Student Loan for Service Act shall not accrue interest until:
(1) the commi ssi on determines the I oan reci pi ent has terminated the reci pi ent's osteopathic medical education pri or to completion;
(2) the commi ssi on determines the I oan recipient has failed to fulfill the recipient's obligation to serve in an area of New Mexi co desi gnated as not being adequatel y served by osteopat hi c medical practitioners; or
(3) the commissi on cancel s a cont ract bet ween a student and the commi ssi on pursuant to Section 21-22A-9 NMSA 1978.
[C.] D. The I oan shall be evi denced by a contract bet ween the st udent and the commission acting on behal f of the state. The contract shall provide for the payment by the state of a stated sum covering the costs of an osteopathic medical education and shall be conditioned upon the repayment of the . 154533. 2

I oan to the state [together with interest] over a period established by the commission in consultation with the student after the compl etion of osteopathic medical school or an osteopathic physician's assi stant programand any period of internshi $p$ or resi dency requi red to compl ete the student's education. [The contract shall further provide that immediatel y upon completion or termination of the student's osteopathic medical education, all interest then acerued shall be capitalized.
©.] E. Loans made to students who fail to complete thei $r$ osteopathic medical education shall become due [together ith interest] i mmedi atel $y$ upon termination of thei $r$ osteopathic medical education. The commi ssion, in consultation with the student, shall establish terns of repayment, alternate service or cancellation terns.
[E.] F. The contract shall provide that the commissi on shall forgive a portion of the I oan [principal and interest] for each year that a loan reci pient practices his profession as a licensed osteopathic physician or osteopathic physi ci an's assi stant in areas approved by the heal th prof essi on advi sory committee as not being adequatel y served by osteopathic medical practitioners. [Loan principal and interest] The loan shall be forgi ven as follows:
(1) I oan tern $\$$ of one year shall requi re one year of practice in a desi gnated heal th professi onal shortage . 154533. 2
area. Upon compl etion of service, one hundred percent of the [princi pal plus accrued interest] loan shall be forgiven;
(2) I oan terns of two years shall require one year of practice in a desi gnated heal th professional shortage area for each year of the I oan. Upon completion of the first year of service, fifty percent of the [principal plus accrued interest] loan shall be forgi ven. Upon completion of the second year of service, the remai nder of the [principal plus accrued interest] Ioan shall be forgi ven; and
(3) for loan terns of three years or more, forty percent of the [principal plus aceruedinterest] Ioan shall be forgi ven upon compl etion of the first year of service in a desi gnated heal th professional shortage area, thirty percent of the [principal plus aceruedinterest] loan shall be forgi ven upon compl etion of the second year of service and the remai nder of the [principal plus accrued interest] loan shall be forgi ven upon completion of the third year of service.
[F.] G Reci pients shall serve a compl ete year in order to recei ve credit for that year. The min mum credit for a year shall be established by the commission.
[G.] H. If a loan reci pi ent completes his professional education and does not serve in a heal th professi onal shortage area, the commi ssi on shall assess a penalty of up to three times the principal due, pl us ei ghteen percent interest, unl ess the commission finds acceptable . 154533. 2
extenuating circunstances for why the student cannot serve. If the commission does not find accept able extenuating ci rcunstances for the student's fail ure to carry out his decl ared intent to serve in a heal th professi onal shortage area in the state, the commission shall requi re immedi ate repayment of the [umpaid principal arount of the loan plus accrued interest one the state] loan pl us the amount of any interest and penalty assessed pursuant to thi s section.
[H.] 1. The commission shall adopt regul ations to i mpl ement the provisions of this section. The regul ations may provi de for the repayment of osteopathic medical student I oans in annual or ot her periodic installments."

Section 3. Section 21-22B- 6 NMSA 1978 (bei ng Laws 1987, Chapter 299, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:
" 21-22B-6. NURSI NG STUDENT LOANS- - CONTRACT TERMSREPAYMENT. - -
A. Each applicant who is approved for a loan by the commi ssi on may be granted a l oan, in such amounts for such periods as determined by the commi ssion, with whi ch to defray expenses incurred in obtai ning a nursing education; provi ded that the appl icant files with the commission a declaration of intent to practice as a licensed nurse in areas of New Mexico desi gnated as underserved.
B. The loans shall not exceed the necessary expenses incurred while attending a programof nursing and . 154533. 2
shall bear interest at the rate of:
(1) ei ght een percent per year if the student completes his nursing education and no portion of the principal and interest is forgiven pursuant to Subsection [E] $\underline{F}$ of this section; and
(2) seven percent per year in all other cases.
C. Loans made pursuant to the Nursing St udent Loan for Service Act shall not accrue interest until:
(1) the commission determines the loan reci pi ent has terminated the reci pi ent's nursing education prior to completion;

## (2) the commissi on determines the I oan

 reci pient has failed to fulfill the recipient's obligation to practice nursing in areas approved by the heal th profession advi sory committee; or(3) the commissi on cancel s a cont ract bet ween a student and the commi ssi on pursuant to Section 21-22B-9 NMSA 1978.
[ C.] D. The I oan shall be evidenced by a contract bet ween the st udent and the commission acting on behal fof the state. The contract shall provide for the payment by the state of a stated sum covering the costs of a nursing education and shall be conditioned upon the repayment of the loan to the state [together with interest] over a period negotiated bet ween the student and the commission after compl etion of a nursing . 154533. 2
program [ The contract shall further provide that i mmediately upon completion or termination of the student's nursing education, all interest then acerued-shall be capitalized.
©.] E. Loans made to students who fail to comple et thei $r$ nursing education shall become due [together with interest] i mmedi atel y upon termination of nursing education. The commission, in consultation with the student, shall establish terns of repayment, alternate service or cancellation terms with the commission.
[E.] F. The contract shall provide that the commi ssi on may forgive a portion of the I oan [principal and interest] for each year that a loan reci pient practices nursing in areas approved by the heal th professi on advi sory committee. [toan principal and interest] The loan shall be forgi ven as foll ows:
(1) I oan terns of one year shall requi re one year of practice in a desi gnated heal th professional shortage area. Upon compl etion of service, one hundred percent of the [principal plus accrued interest] loan shall be forgiven;
(2) I oan terns of two years shall require one year of practice in a desi gnated heal th professional shortage area for each year of the I oan. Upon compl eti on of the first year of service, fifty percent of the [principal plus acerued interest] I oan shall be forgiven. Upon compl et i on of the second year of service, the remai nder of the [principal plus . 154533. 2
accrued interest] loan shall be forgiven; and
(3) for loan terms of three years or more, forty percent of the [principal plus acerued interest] loan shal l be forgi ven upon compl etion of the first year of service in a desi gnated health professi onal shortage area, thirty percent of the [principal plus accrued interest] Ioan shall be forgi ven upon compl et i on of the second year of service and the remai nder of the [principal plus accrued interest] loan shall be forgiven upon compl et ion of the third year of service.
[F.] G Reci pients shall serve a compl ete year in order to recei ve credit for that year. The mi nimmeredit for a year shall be established by the commission.
[G-] H. The commissi on shall adopt regul ations to i mpl ement the provisions of this section. The regul ations may provi de for the repayment of nursing student Ioans in annual or ot her periodic install ments."

Section 4. Section 21-22C-6 NMSA 1978 (bei ng Laws 1994, Chapter 57, Section 8, as amended) is amended to read:
"21-22C-6. ALLI ED HEALTH STUDENT LOANS- - CONTRACT TERME- - REPAYMENT. --
A. Prior to recei ving a I oan, each appl i cant approved for a loan shall file with the commission a decl aration of intent to practice as a licensed allied heal th prof essi onal in areas of New Mexi co desi gnated as underserved.
B. The loans shall not exceed the necessary
expenses incurred while attending an allied heal th profession programand shall bear interest at the rate of:
(1) ei ghteen percent per year if the student compl etes his allied heal th professi on education and no portion of the principal and interest is forgi ven pursuant to Subsection [E] $E$ of thi s section; and
(2) seven percent per year in all other cases.
C. Loans made pursuant to the Allied Heal th St udent

Loan for Service Act shall not accrue interest until:
(1) the commissi on determines the I oan
reci pient has terminated the recipient's allied heal th prof essi on education prior to compl etion;
(2) the commissi on determines the I oan reci pient has failed to fulfill the reci pient's obligation to practice as a licensed allied heal th professional in areas of New Mexi co desi gnated as underserved; or
(3) the commissi on cancel s a contract between a student and the commi ssi on pur suant to Section 21-22C-9 NMSA 1978.
[ C.] D. The I oan shall be evidenced by a contract bet ween the student and the commission acting on behalf of the state. The contract shall provide for the payment by the state of a stated sum covering the costs of an allied heal th professi on education and shall be conditioned on the repayment of the loan to the state [together with interest] over a period . 154533. 2
negotiated bet ween the student and the commi ssi on after completion of an lied health profession education. [The contract shal I further provide that i mmediately upon completion or termination of the student's allied health profession education, all interest then accrued shall be capitalized.
D.] E. Loans made to students who fail to compl ete thei $r$ allied heal th profession education shall become due [together with interest] imeedi at el $y$ upon termination of that education. The commission, in consultation with the st udent, shall establish repayment terns, alternate service or cancellation terms.
[E.] F. The contract shall provi de that the commission shall forgive a portion of the I oan [principal and interest] for each year that a loan recipient practices an allied heal th profession in areas approved by the heal th prof essi on advi sory committee. [ Loan principal and interest] The I oan shall be forgiven as follows:
(1) I oan terms of one year shall requi re one year of practice in a desi gnated health professional shortage area. Upon compl etion of service, one hundred percent of the [principal plus accrued interest] loan shall be forgiven;
(2) I oan terns of two years shall require one year of practice in a desi gnated heal th professional shortage area for each year of the I oan. Upon completion of the first year of service, fifty percent of the [principal plus accrued . 154533. 2
interest] loan shall be forgi ven. Upon compl etion of the second year of service, the remai nder of the [principal plus accrued interest] loan shall be forgiven; and
(3) for loan terns of three years or more, forty percent of the [principal plus accrued interest] loan shall be forgiven upon compl etion of the first year of service, thirty percent of the [principal plus acerued-interest] Ioan shall be forgi ven upon completion of the second year of service and the remai nder of the [principal plus accrued interest] Ioan shall be forgi ven upon completion of the third year of service.
[F.] G Reci pients shall serve a compl ete year in order to recei ve credit for that year. The min mum credit for a year shall be established by the commission.
[G-] H. If a loan reci pient completes his professional education and does not serve the requi red number of years in a health professional shortage area, the commi ssion shall assess a penalty of up to three times the principal due, pl us ei ghteen percent interest, unl ess the commi ssi on finds acceptable extenuating circunstances for why the st udent cannot serve. If the commi ssion does not find accept able extenuating circunstances for the student's failure to carry out his decl ared intent to serve in a heal th professional shortage area in the state, the commi ssi on shall requi re immedi ate repayment of the [ unpaid principal arount of the loan plus acerued interest owed the state] loan pl us the amount of any interest . 154533. 2
and penalty assessed pursuant to thi s subsection.
[H.] 1. The commissi on shall adopt regul ations to i mpl ement the provisions of this section. The regul ations may provi de for the repayment of allied health student Ioans in annual or ot her periodic installments."

Section 5. Section 21-22E- 6 NMSA 1978 (bei ng Laws 2001, Chapter 288, Section 6) is amended to read:
"21-22E-6. TEACHER LOANS- - CONTRACT TERMG- - REPAYMENT. - -
A. Each applicant who is approved for a loan by the commi ssi on may be granted a loan in such amounts and for such periods as the commi ssi on determines. The I oan shall not exceed the necessary expenses incurred while attending a teacher preparation program
B. A loan shall bear interest at the rate of:
(1) ei ghteen percent per year if the I oan reci pi ent compl etes his teacher preparation program and no portion of the principal and interest is forgi ven pursuant to Subsection [E] $\underline{E}$ of this section; or
(2) seven percent per year in all other cases.
C. Loans made pursuant to the Teacher Loan for Service Act shall not accrue interest until:
(1) the commissi on determines the I oan
recipient has terminated the recipient's teacher preparation program pri or to completion;
(2) the commissi on determines the I oan
reci pient has failed to fulfill the recipient's obligation to practice as a licensed teacher in New Mexi co; or
(3) the commissi on cancel s a contract bet ween a student and the commi ssi on pursuant to Section 21-22E-9 NMSA 1978.
[C.] D. The I oan shall be evi denced by a contract bet ween the I oan reci pi ent and the commission acting on behal f of the state. The contract shall provide for the payment by the state of a stated sum covering the costs of a teacher preparation program and shall be conditioned on the repayment of the loan to the state [together with interest] over a period established by the commission after the compl etion of the teacher preparation programand any postgraduate study or internshi $p$ requi red to complet the I oan reci pi ent's education. [ The contract shall further provide that immedi-ately upon completion or termination of the loan recipient's education, all interest then accrued shall be capitalized.
B.-] E. A loan made to a recipi ent who fails to compl ete his teacher preparation programshall become due together with interest] imedi atel y upon termination of his teacher preparation program The commission, in consultation with the I oan reci pient, shall establish terns of repayment, al ternate service or cancellation terms.
[E.] F. The contract shall provi de that the commission shall forgive a portion of the I oan [principal and . 154533. 2
interest] for each year that the loan reci pi ent practices his profession as a licensed teacher in New Mexi co. [ Loan principal and interest] The loan shall be forgiven as follows:
(1) I oan terns of one year shall requi re one year of practice. Upon compl etion of service, one hundred percent of the [principal plus accrued interest] loan shall be for gi ven;
(2) I oan terns of two years shall requi re one year of practice for each year of the I oan. Upon compl etion of the first year of service, fifty percent of the [principal plus acerued interest] loan shall be forgiven. Upon compl etion of the second year of service, the remai nder of the [principat plus accrued interest] loan shall be forgiven; and
(3) for loan terns of three years or more, forty percent of the [principal plus accruedinterest] Ioan shall be forgiven upon compl etion of the first year of service, thirty percent of the [principal plus accrued interest] loan shall be forgi ven upon completion of the second year of service and the remai nder of the [principal plus acerued interest] Ioan shall be forgi ven upon compl etion of the third year of service.
[F.] G A loan reci pi ent shall serve a compl ete contract year in order to receive credit for that year. The minimum credit for a year shall be established by the commi ssi on.
[G-] H. If a loan reci pi ent compl et es his teacher
preparation programand does not serve in a New Mexi co public school, the commi ssi on shall assess a penalty of up to three times the principal due, plus ei ghteen percent interest, unl ess the commission finds acceptable extenuating circunstances that prevent the I oan reci pi ent fromserving. If the commission does not find acceptable extenuating circunstances for the I oan reci pient's failure to carry out his decl ared intent to serve, the commi ssi on shal l requi re imedi ate repayment of the [unpaid principal amount of the loan plus accrued interest owed the state] loan pl us the amount of any interest and penal ty assessed pursuant to this section.
[H-] 1. The commissi on shall adopt and promul gate rules to implement the provisions of this section. The rules may provi de for the repayment of I oans in annual or other periodic installments."

Section 6. Section 21-29-3 NMSA 1978 (bei ng Laws 1997, Chapter 126, Section 3) is amended to read:
"21-29-3. STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM - TERMS OF STUDENT LOANS- - PAYBACK REQU REMENTS. --
A. Financial assistance by the state for the student exchange program of the western interstate commi ssion [on] for hi gher education shall be through a loan program established pursuant to this section.
B. A st udent may recei ve a loan of tuition assi stance on the following terns:
(1) the I oan shall not exceed an amount equi val ent to the negotiated support fee for the graduate or prof essi onal program and
(2) the I oan shall bear interest at the rate of :
(a) ei ght een percent per year if the st udent completes his education and no portion of the principal and interest is forgi ven pursuant to Subsection [E] F of this section; and
(b) seven percent per year in all ot her cases.

> C. Loans made pursuant to the W CHE Loan for Service Act shall not accrue interest until:
(1) the commissi on determines the I oan reci pient has terminated the reci pient's professi onal education programprior to compl etion;

## (2) the commissi on determines the I oan

 reci pient has failed to fulfill the reci pient's obl igation to practice the reci pi ent's professi on in New Mexi co; or(3) the commi ssi on cancel s a contract bet ween a student and the commi ssi on pur suant to Section 21-29-6 NMSA 1978.
[ €.] D. The I oan shall be evidenced by a contract bet ween the student and the commission acting on behalf of the state. The contract shall provide for the payment by the state . 154533. 2
of a stated sum covering the cost of tuition assistance and shall be conditioned on the repayment of the loan to the state [together with interest] over a period established by the commi ssi on. [ The contract shall provide further that immediatel y upon completion or termination of the student's education, all interest then accrued shall be capitalized.
©.] E. Loans made to a student who fails to complete his education shall become due [together with interest] i mredi atel $y$ upon termination of his education. The commi ssi on shall establish tern® of repayment, alternate service or cancellation terms.
[E.] F. The contract shall provi de that the commission shall forgive a portion of the I oan [principal and interest] for each year that a loan recipient practices his prof essi on in New Mexi co. [ Loan principal and interest] The Ioan shall be forgi ven as follows:
(1) I oan tern $\$$ of one year shall requi re one year of practice for each year of the I oan. Upon compl etion of service, one hundred percent of the [principal plus acerued interest] Ioan shall be forgi ven;
(2) I oan terns of two years shall requi re one year of practice for each year of the I oan. Upon compl et ion of the first year of service, fifty percent of the [principal plus accrued interest] loan shal I be forgi ven; upon compl etion of the second year of service, the remai nder of the [principal . 154533. 2
plus accrued interest] Ioan shal l be forgiven;
(3) for loan terns of three years or more, forty percent of the [principal plus acerued interest] Ioan shall be forgiven upon compl etion of the first year of service, thirty percent of the [principal plus accrued interest] Ioan shall be forgi ven upon compl etion of the second year of service and the remai nder of the [principal plus aceruedinterest] Ioan shall be forgiven upon compl etion of the third year of service; and
(4) the commi ssi on may establ i sh ot her forgi veness terns for professionals providing service in serious shortage areas.
[F.] G Loan reci pi ents shall serve a compl ete year in order to recei ve credit for that year. The mimmeredit for a year shall be established by the commi ssion.
[G.] H. If a student compl etes his professional education and does not return to New Mexi co to practice his prof essi on, the commission shall assess a penalty of up to three times the principal due, pl us ei ghteen percent interest, unl ess the commission finds acceptable extenuating circunstances for why the st udent cannot serve. If the commission does not find acceptable extenuating circunstances for the student's fail ure to carry out his declared intent to practice his professi on in New Mexico, the commi ssi on shall requi re immedi ate repayment of the [umpaid principal amount of . 154533. 2
the loan plus accrued interest oned the state] loan pl us the amount of any interest and penalty assessed pursuant to this subsection.
[H] 1. The commission may provi de by regul ation for the repayment of student exchange programloans in annual or other periodic installments."

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