

State of Arkansas  
93rd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2021

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1224

By: Representative Tosh

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE STATE CRIME LABORATORY  
STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO ESTABLISH THE STATE CRIME LABORATORY  
STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 12, Subchapter 3, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

12-12-327. State Crime Laboratory Student Loan Forgiveness Program.

(a) There is established the State Crime Laboratory Student Loan Forgiveness Program to assist pathologists employed by the State Crime Laboratory with the repayment of the pathologists' student loans.

(b)(1) The program described under this section shall be administered by the laboratory.

(2) The State Crime Laboratory Board shall promulgate rules for determining a pathologist's eligibility for student loan forgiveness under the program that shall include the following requirements:

(A) Satisfactory completion of any probationary employment period;

(B) Proof of a student loan that remains unpaid, including the name and address of the student loan creditor; and

(C) An executed employment contract with the laboratory in which the pathologist agrees to:



(i) Work for the laboratory for a term that equals twenty-four (24) months for each year that the program makes a payment on the pathologist's student loan; and

(ii) Reimburse the program if the pathologist resigns or is terminated for cause before the term of the employment contract terminates.

(3) The amount of the payment to be made directly to the pathologist's student loan creditor shall not exceed:

(A) Twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per twenty-four months; or

(B) One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per pathologist.

**APPROVED: 3/15/21**