

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Section

- 1** **Loan forgiveness program for speech-language pathologists.** Establishes an account under the Office of Higher Education for the recruitment and retention of licensed speech-language pathologists. Establishes a forgivable loan program administered by the Office for graduates who become licensed to work with students with speech and hearing disorders and are employed as a speech-language pathologist. Up to the limits of the appropriations, one-fourth of the principal of the loan balance is forgiven for each year of eligible employment in specified programs. Loans of less than \$2,500 are forgiven at \$1,250 per year. Loans can be deferred for a student enrolled in an eligible advanced degree program.
- 2** **Appropriation.** Appropriates an unspecified amount from the general fund for deposit into the account for loan forgiveness.