

Law Student Division Legislative Summary

Legislation: H.R.916- The John R. Justice Prosecutors and Defenders Incentive Act

Author: Scott (D- GA-13)

Co-Sponsors:

Arcuri (NY-24); Baldwin (WI-2); Berman (CA-28); Bishop (GA-2); Butterfield (NC-1); Capuano (MA-8); Chandler (KY-6); Conyers (MI-14); Cooper (TN-5); Davis (IL-7); Davis (TN-4); Deal (GA-9); DeGette (CO-1); Delahunt (MA-10); DeLauro (CT-3); Diaz-Balart (FL-21); Ellison (MN-5); Etheridge (NC-2); Fattah (PA-2); Ferguson (NJ-7); Gordon (TN-6); Gutierrez (IL-4); Hirono (HI-2); Hulshof (MO-9); Israel (NY-2); Kucinich (OH-10); Lee (CA-9); Lewis, John (GA-5); Lowey (NY-18); Lynch (MA-9); Markey (MA-7); McCotter (MI-11); Michaud (ME-2); Moore (KS-3); Nadler (NY-8); Payne (NJ-10); Sanchez (CA-39); Schakowsky (IL-9); Schiff (CA-29); Scott (VA-3); Solis (CA-32); Udall (CO-2); Wasserman Schultz (FL-20); Woolsey (CA-6)

Status: On March 1, 2007, the legislation was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security.

Companion Senate Legislation: S.442 (Durbin D- IL)

What It Does:

- Establishes a program of student loan repayment for borrowers who agree to remain employed as a state or local criminal prosecutor or public defender for at least three years.
- Allows eligible attorneys to receive student loan debt repayments of up to \$10,000 per year with a maximum aggregate over time of \$60,000. Benefits are on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Covers student loans made, insured or guaranteed under the Higher Education Act of 1965, including consolidation loans
- Permits attorneys to enter into additional loan repayment agreements, after the required three year period for additional periods of service
- Requires attorneys to repay the government if they do not complete their required period of service.
- Authorizes \$25 million in appropriations for FY08