

Introduced by

Senators Davison, Bakke, Oban

Representative Pyle

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15-10 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to a student teacher scholarship program; and to provide an
3 appropriation.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Student teacher scholarship program - Administered by the board.**

8 1. For purposes of this section:

9 a. "Remote school district" has the same meaning as the term is defined in the 2006
10 national center for education statistics locale codes.

11 b. "Rural school district" has the same meaning as the term is defined in the 2006
12 national center for education statistics locale codes.

13 c. "Student teacher" means an individual enrolled in a state-approved educator
14 preparation program in this state who is completing the qualifications to become
15 a licensed teacher, and who has signed a contract to teach at a rural school
16 district under the supervision of a licensed teacher.

17 2. The state board of higher education shall administer a student teacher scholarship
18 program. The board shall adopt rules to administer the program including rules
19 establishing an application process and distribution of program scholarships. An
20 eligible student teacher may apply to the board to receive a scholarship under the
21 program.

22 3. To be eligible to receive a scholarship under this section, an individual:

23 a. Must be enrolled in a state-approved educator preparation program in this state;

- 1 b. Must be completing the qualifications to become a licensed teacher in
2 compliance with chapters 15.1-13 and 15.1-18;
3 c. Must be enrolled in a teacher preparation program accredited by the education
4 standards and practices board; and
5 d. Must have signed a contract to student teach at a grade level or in a content area
6 and in a geographical location in the state identified by the board as having an
7 existing teacher shortage or critical need.
- 8 4. To be eligible to hire a student teacher awarded a scholarship under this section, a
9 school district:
- 10 a. Must be a rural and remote school district;
11 b. Must demonstrate a teacher shortage, as determined by the board;
12 c. Must be willing to supervise, mentor, and train a student teacher; and
13 d. Must be able to provide the student teacher lodging accommodations within a
14 reasonable distance from the school of placement and at a reasonable rental
15 rate, as determined by the board.
- 16 5. Subject to legislative appropriation:
- 17 a. The board may award and distribute up to thirty-three scholarships during each
18 year of the biennium; and
19 b. The board shall distribute up to fifteen thousand dollars to an eligible individual
20 awarded a scholarship under the program. A scholarship may be used to pay:
21 (1) The cost of tuition; and
22 (2) Living expenses while student teaching, including rent, food, clothing, and
23 travel to the school and district of placement.
- 24 6. The board may contract with a third-party organization to administer the program and
25 supervise the student teachers participating in the program.

26 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general
27 fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$500,000, or so much of the
28 sum as may be necessary, to the state board of higher education for the purpose of providing
29 scholarships to eligible student teachers under the student teacher scholarship program, for the
30 biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023. A school district shall provide one

Sixty-seventh
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- 1 dollar of matching funds for each one dollar from the general fund for student teachers hired
- 2 under this Act.