

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT
with Conference Committee Amendments****ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1444**

Introduced by

Representatives R. Kelsch, Delmore, Haas

Senators Grindberg, Krebsbach

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a student loan forgiveness program to individuals preparing to
2 teach at grade levels or in content areas having declared teacher shortages.

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

4 **SECTION 1. Loans - Teacher shortages - Loan forgiveness.**

- 5 1. The state board of higher education shall administer a student loan forgiveness
6 program for individuals teaching at grade levels or in content areas identified as
7 having a teacher shortage. The board shall adopt rules to implement the program.
- 8 2. The superintendent of public instruction shall annually identify the grade levels and
9 content areas in which a teacher shortage exists.
- 10 3. To be eligible for loan forgiveness under this section, an individual:
- 11 a. Must have been admitted as a full-time student in a teacher preparation
12 program, with the declared intention to teach at a grade level or in a content
13 area identified by the superintendent of public instruction as one in which a
14 teacher shortage exists; and
- 15 b. Must have obtained a student loan.
- 16 4. An individual may receive up to one thousand dollars per year and a maximum of
17 five thousand dollars under this section.
- 18 5. The board shall consider all applications under this section in chronological order.
- 19 6. Upon notification that the individual has completed a full year of teaching in a
20 school district or nonpublic school in this state at a grade level or in a content area
21 identified by the superintendent of public instruction as one in which a teacher
22 shortage exists, the board shall distribute funds directly to the bank of North
23 Dakota to repay outstanding loan principal balances for eligible applicants.

1 **SECTION 2. STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS FUNDING.** The funds appropriated in
2 the student grant programs line item included in subdivision 1 of section 1 of Senate Bill No.
3 2003, include \$250,000 from the general fund for providing loan forgiveness as authorized in
4 section 1 of this Act, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2003.