

**Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 9, 2001**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1444
(Representatives R. Kelsch, Delmore, Haas)
(Senators Grindberg, Krebsbach)

AN ACT to provide for a student loan forgiveness program to individuals preparing to teach at grade levels or in content areas having declared teacher shortages.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. Loans - Teacher shortages - Loan forgiveness.

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

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

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1444.

House Vote: Yeas 85 Nays 12 Absent 1

Senate Vote: Yeas 42 Nays 6 Absent 1

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2001.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2001.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2001,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State