

Sixtieth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1249

Introduced by

Representatives Monson, R. Kelsch, Nelson

Senators Robinson, Wanzek

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15-10-38 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to loan forgiveness for teachers.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-10-38 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **15-10-38. Loans - Teacher shortages - Loan forgiveness.**

- 7 1. The state board of higher education shall administer a student loan forgiveness
8 program for individuals teaching at grade levels or in content areas identified as
9 having a teacher shortage. The board shall adopt rules to implement the program,
10 including rules establishing priority for recent graduates, the order in which
11 applications are considered, and limitation on the number of years that an
12 individual may receive funding.
- 13 2. The superintendent of public instruction shall annually identify the grade levels and
14 content areas in which a teacher shortage exists.
- 15 3. To be eligible for loan forgiveness under this section, an individual:
- 16 a. ~~Must have been admitted as a full-time student in a teacher preparation~~
17 ~~program, with the declared intention to teach at a grade level or in a content~~
18 ~~area identified by the superintendent of public instruction as one in which a~~
19 ~~teacher shortage exists~~ graduated from an approved teacher program; and
- 20 b. Must have obtained a student loan.
- 21 4. ~~An individual may receive up to one thousand dollars per year and a maximum of~~
22 ~~five thousand dollars, or a lesser amount established by rule adopted by the state~~
23 ~~board of higher education under this section~~ For each year of teaching which an
24 individual completes at a grade level or in a content area identified by the

1 superintendent of public instruction as having a teacher shortage, the board shall
2 forward to the Bank of North Dakota, on behalf of the individual, an amount equal
3 to the lesser of the individual's outstanding loan principal balance or two thousand
4 dollars.

- 5 5. The board shall consider all applications under this section in chronological order.
6 In addition to any other payment authorized by this section, if an individual teaches
7 in a school district that has fewer than five thousand students in average daily
8 membership in grades one through twelve, the board shall forward to the Bank of
9 North Dakota, on behalf of the individual, an amount equal to the lesser of the
10 individual's outstanding loan principal or one thousand dollars for each year that
11 the individual teaches at a grade level or in a content area identified by the
12 superintendent of public instruction as having a teacher shortage.

- 13 6. ~~Upon notification that the individual has completed a full year of teaching in a~~
14 ~~school district or nonpublic school in this state at a grade level or in a content area~~
15 ~~identified by the superintendent of public instruction as one in which a teacher~~
16 ~~shortage exists, the board shall distribute funds directly to the Bank of North~~
17 ~~Dakota to repay outstanding loan principal balances for eligible applicants~~ An
18 individual may receive funding under this program for no more than five years
19 unless the board establishes, by rule, that the number of years of eligibility for the
20 program is fewer than five.