

Fifty-fifth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**SENATE BILL NO. 2029**

Introduced by

Legislative Council

(Budget Committee on Human Services)

(Senators Nalewaja, Thane, Lips)  
(Representatives Carlisle, Thoreson, Clark)

- 1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15-40.1 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to payments for refugee students having limited English language  
3 proficiency; and to provide an appropriation for educational assistance for adults having limited  
4 English proficiency.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15-40.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
7 created and enacted as follows:

8 **Per student payments - Limited English proficient refugee students.**

- 9 1. In addition to any other payments provided for by this chapter, each school district  
10 is entitled to receive four hundred seventy-five dollars for each student who:  
11 a. Has immigrated to the United States as a refugee from a country in which a  
12 language other than English is dominant; and  
13 b. Has difficulty speaking, reading, writing, and understanding English.  
14 2. For purposes of receiving payment under this section, a school district shall assess  
15 the language proficiency of eligible students using a testing instrument approved  
16 by the superintendent of public instruction.  
17 3. In order to receive the full payment provided for in this section, a school district  
18 must complete the student assessment required by subsection 2 and forward the  
19 results to the superintendent of public instruction on or before October first of each  
20 school year. The superintendent shall distribute the payments no later than May  
21 thirtieth of each school year. The superintendent shall prorate payments under this  
22 section for any students registering in the school district after October first or  
23 departing the school district prior to the completion of the school year.

1           **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in  
2 the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$100,000, or so  
3 much of the sum as may be necessary, to the superintendent of public instruction for the  
4 purpose of providing educational assistance through adult learning centers to eligible adults  
5 having limited English proficiency as demonstrated by a testing instrument approved by the  
6 superintendent of public instruction for the biennium beginning July 1, 1997, and ending  
7 June 30, 1999. For purposes of this section, "eligible adult" means one who has immigrated to  
8 the United States as a refugee from a country in which a language other than English is  
9 dominant and who has difficulty speaking, reading, writing, or understanding English.