

HOUSE BILL NO. 1331

Introduced by

Representatives Heilman, Beadle, Brabandt, Delmore, Kreun, Wall, Boe

Senators Laffen, Sorvaag

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15-10-37 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to the technology occupations student loan paydown program.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-10-37 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **15-10-37. Technology occupations student loan paydown program.**

- 7 1. The state board of higher education shall administer a science, technology,
8 engineering, and mathematics occupations student loan paydown program that
9 encourages college students to pursue studies in these fields, to participate in
10 internship programs, and to remain in the state after graduation. The board shall adopt
11 rules to implement the program, including internship requirements, guidelines to
12 determine which technology-related courses of study are eligible under the program,
13 and standards for eligibility.
- 14 2. ~~Graduates of board approved colleges may apply for the technology occupations-~~
15 ~~student loan program. To be eligible to receive a student loan grant~~paydown under
16 ~~the program, the applicant~~this section, an individual:
- 17 a. ~~Must have graduated from a board-approved college;~~
- 18 b. ~~Must have successfully completed the board-approved technology-related-~~
19 ~~courses;~~
- 20 e. ~~Must have maintained at least an~~ accredited institution of higher education
21 located in this state, with a 2.5 grade point average, based on a 4.0 grading
22 system, at a board-approved college;
- 23 d.b. ~~Must have an outstanding student loan with the Bank of North Dakota or other-~~
24 ~~participating lender;~~

- 1 e.c. Following graduation ~~must~~Must be employed in the ~~the~~this state in a board-approved-
- 2 technology occupation approved by the board; and
- 3 f.d. ~~Must have met and shall continue to meet any other~~ requirements established by
- 4 rule.
- 5 3. The state board of higher education shall ~~distribute student loan grants directly to the~~
- 6 ~~Bank of North Dakota to repay outstanding~~arrange to pay down the individual's
- 7 ~~student loan principal balances for eligible applicants~~by one thousand five hundred
- 8 dollars per year.
- 9 4. The maximum ~~student loan grant amount for which an applicant may qualify is one-~~
- 10 ~~thousand five hundred dollars per year and a total of~~amount that an individual is
- 11 eligible to receive under this section is six thousand dollars, or a lesser amount
- 12 ~~established by~~set in rule adopted by the state board of higher education.