A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of public instruction for the paraprofessional-to-teacher program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION - PARAPROFESSIONAL-TO-TEACHER PROGRAM. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of $3,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of public instruction for the purpose of providing grants to accredited institutions of higher education to assist paraprofessionals to become qualified teachers, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025. The department of public instruction may award up to $20,000 to each qualifying institution for program startup and other administrative costs and the remainder of the appropriation may be used only for tuition and scholarships for students enrolled in the program. The department of public instruction may establish policies and procedures to administer this program.