

HOUSE BILL NO. 1433

Introduced by

Representatives Boucher, Monson

Senator Krauter

1 A BILL for an Act to establish a cooperative education enhancement program.

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

3 **SECTION 1. Cooperative education enhancement program - Intent to participate -**

4 **Notice - Hearing - Approval.** In order to participate in a cooperative education enhancement
5 program and to receive funds as provided for in section 3 of this Act, the board of a high school
6 district shall by majority vote declare its intent to participate with one or more adjoining high
7 school districts. Within ten days of the declaration, the board shall publish notice of a public
8 hearing in the official newspaper of the school district and, within thirty days of the published
9 notice, hold the hearing. No later than thirty days after the public hearing, the boards of all high
10 school districts seeking to enter into a cooperative agreement with each other shall, after
11 publication of notice in their official newspapers, hold a joint public hearing. At the next regular
12 meeting of each board participating in the joint hearing, each board shall take a roll call vote to
13 determine whether the school district it represents should participate in a cooperative education
14 enhancement program. Within ten days of that meeting, each board shall publish its decision in
15 the official newspaper of the district.

16 **SECTION 2. Approval of state superintendent of public instruction - Submission**

17 **of contracts.** When the boards of two or more high school districts agree to participate in a
18 cooperative education enhancement program, each board shall submit to the superintendent of
19 public instruction notarized copies of its meeting minutes regarding the initial declaration of
20 intent, the board's public hearing, the joint public hearing, and the board's final approval. Within
21 thirty days of receiving the minutes, the superintendent of public instruction shall approve or
22 disapprove the proposed agreement and notify each school board of the decision. Prior to
23 receiving reimbursements from the superintendent of public instruction as provided by section 3
24 of this Act, each school district must provide to the superintendent of public instruction copies of

the shared personnel contracts. Reimbursements must be calculated on a contract year beginning July first and ending June thirtieth. Any contracts entered into after July first must provide for reimbursement retroactively to July first of the intended contract year.

SECTION 3. Cooperative education enhancement program - Reimbursement rates.

1. Each participating school district is entitled to receive the following reimbursements from the superintendent of public instruction for a period of four school years:
 - a. Ten thousand dollars per year for each shared superintendent, except if more than four districts share a superintendent, the sum of forty thousand dollars must be evenly divided between the districts.
 - b. Seven thousand five hundred dollars per year for each shared specialist, except if more than four districts share a specialist, the sum of thirty thousand dollars must be evenly divided between the districts.
 - c. Five thousand dollars per year for each shared classroom teacher, except that a school district may not receive reimbursement for more than two shared classroom teacher contracts per school.
2. The superintendent of public instruction shall forward payments under this section to school districts at the same time as other state aid payments are distributed to school districts.

SECTION 4. Cooperating districts - Reorganization. No later than the July first following the fourth anniversary of the date on which the superintendent of public instruction approves a cooperative education enhancement agreement as provided in section 2 of this Act, the districts that entered into the agreement must become reorganized into a single school district.