

Introduced by

Senators Krauter, Freborg, G. Nelson

Representatives Belter, Kerzman, Monson

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 2 of section 14 of chapter 169 of the 1999
2 Session Laws, relating to school district reorganization bonuses; to provide for a legislative
3 council study; to provide an appropriation; and to declare an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STUDY - APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE -**

6 **CONSULTANT.** The legislative council shall appoint a nine-member committee consisting of
7 members of the house of representatives and the senate to study the current structure of
8 school districts, special education units, and vocational education units, and options for the
9 reorganization of such entities, giving appropriate consideration to current and future funding at
10 the state and local level, taxable valuation, mill levies, land mass, transportation, and
11 educational curriculum. The legislative council shall employ a consultant to assist with the
12 study. The consultant, together with the superintendent of public instruction, shall evaluate the
13 current structure of school districts, special education units, and vocational education units, and
14 shall, on or before May 1, 2002, present to the committee options for the reorganization of such
15 entities. The legislative council shall present its findings and recommendations, together with
16 any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the fifty-eighth legislative
17 assembly.

18 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 2 of section 14 of chapter 169 of the 1999
19 Session Laws is amended and reenacted as follows:

20 2. a. If any funds appropriated by the legislative assembly to the grants -
21 foundation aid and transportation line item remain after completion of all
22 statutory obligations, to the extent of legislative appropriations, the
23 superintendent of public instruction shall distribute the first \$1,000,000 of such

contingent funds as supplemental per student payments to each school district in the state on the basis of average daily membership.

b. The superintendent shall distribute the next \$1,000,000 of such contingent funds to assist school districts experiencing declines in student enrollment under the terms provided for by subdivision b of subsection 1.

c. The superintendent shall distribute ~~the next \$2,000,000 of such contingent funds to school districts eligible to receive reorganization bonuses, as provided for by Senate Bill No. 2441, as approved by the fifty sixth legislative assembly, and shall distribute any all~~ remaining funds, except \$1,665,000, as supplemental per student payments to each school district in the state on the basis of average daily membership.

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,165,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the superintendent of public instruction for the purpose of distributing reorganization bonuses under section 15.1-12-11.1 to school districts whose reorganizations become effective on July 1, 2001, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2003.

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$500,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the legislative council for the purpose of employing a consultant to develop a proposal for the reorganization of school districts, special education units, and vocational education units, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2003.

SECTION 5. EMERGENCY. This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.