

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1013

That the Senate recede from its amendments as printed on pages 1618-1625 of the House Journal and pages 1479-1485 of the Senate Journal and that Engrossed House Bill No. 1013 be amended as follows:

Page 1, line 2, after "instruction" insert ", the division of independent study", remove "and" and after "library" insert ", and the state board for vocational and technical education"

Page 1, line 3, after the semicolon insert "and" and replace "4" with "1"

Page 1, line 4, replace "15-40.1-07.8" with "15-40.1-16", replace "4" with "1", and replace "15.1-27-11" with "15.1-27-26"

Page 1, line 5, replace "supplemental" with "transportation"

Page 1, line 6, remove "; and to declare an emergency"

Page 1, line 11, after the second comma insert "the division of independent study,"

Page 1, line 16, replace "12,170,316" with "8,985,148"

Page 1, line 17, replace "17,031,193" with "15,310,080"

Page 1, line 18, replace "534,140" with "344,140"

Page 1, remove line 19

Page 1, line 20, replace "461,035,668" with "473,971,648"

Page 1, line 21, replace "46,640,055" with "35,036,000"

Page 1, line 22, replace "3,450,000" with "2,200,000"

Page 2, line 1, replace "149,350,263" with "149,420,263"

Page 2, line 2, replace "100,000" with "100,000"

Page 2, remove line 3

Page 2, line 4, replace "807,524,355" with "802,504,999"

Page 2, line 5, replace "237,044,955" with "232,691,705"

Page 2, line 6, replace "570,479,400" with "569,813,294"

Page 2, after line 6, insert:

"Subdivision 2.

DIVISION OF INDEPENDENT STUDY

Salaries and wages

\$3,257,968

Operating expenses	1,718,498
Equipment	190,000
Capital improvements	55,000
Total all funds	\$5,221,466
Less estimated income	4,353,250
Total general fund appropriation	\$868,216"

Page 2, line 7, replace "2" with "3"

Page 2, line 16, replace "3" with "4"

Page 2, line 18, replace "4,814,058" with "4,888,058"

Page 2, line 22, replace "6,075,925" with "6,149,925"

Page 2, line 24, replace "4,980,301" with "5,054,301"

Page 2, line 25, replace "4" with "5"

Page 2, line 27, replace "2,668,958" with "2,725,158"

Page 2, line 28, replace "652,238" with "662,238"

Page 2, line 31, replace "3,406,612" with "3,472,812"

Page 3, line 2, replace "2,048,791" with "2,114,991"

Page 3, line 3, replace "580,623,148" with "580,978,458"

Page 3, line 5, replace "821,720,405" with "822,075,715"

Page 3, replace lines 18 through 31 with:

**"SECTION 4. RED RIVER VALLEY WRITING PROJECT.** The operating expenses line item in subdivision 1 of section 1 of this Act includes \$20,000 from the general fund which must be used to support the Red River valley writing project during the biennium beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2003.

**SECTION 5. STANDARDS-BASED STUDENT TESTING.** The operating expenses line item in subdivision 1 of section 1 of this Act includes \$1,217,928 from the general fund which must be used to develop and administer student tests aligned with the state content standards and to report the results of the tests during the biennium beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2003.

**SECTION 6. COMPENSATION PAYMENTS TO TEACHERS AT STATE INSTITUTIONS.** In addition to amounts otherwise appropriated for salary increases for teachers at the division of independent study, the school for the deaf, and the school for the blind, the amounts appropriated for salaries and wages in subdivisions 2, 4, and 5 of section 1 of this Act include the following general fund amounts which must be used to increase teacher compensation by \$1,000 per year the first year of the biennium and by an additional \$2,000 per year the second year of the biennium:

Division of independent study	\$72,800
School for the deaf	\$74,000
School for the blind	\$56,200"

Page 4, remove lines 1 through 6

Page 4, line 10, replace "129.95" with "94.25"

Page 5, line 6, remove "These grants must be administered under the direction of the educational"

Page 5, remove line 7

Page 5, line 10, replace "\$450,000" with "\$650,000"

Page 5, line 21, replace "2" with "3"

Page 5, line 25, replace "4" with "5"

Page 5, replace lines 28 through 30 with:

**"SECTION 15. AMENDMENT.** If House Bill No. 1045 does not become effective, subsection 1 of section 15-40.1-16 of the 1999 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. There must be paid from state funds to each school district providing schoolbus transportation in contract schoolbuses or in district-owned and operated schoolbuses, and to school districts with students riding commercial buses to and from school, the following amounts:
  - a. For schoolbuses and school vehicles transporting students who live outside the incorporated limits of the city in which the students' school is located, a sum equal to twenty-five cents per mile [1.61 kilometers] for vehicles having a capacity of nine or fewer students and sixty-seven cents per mile [1.61 kilometers] for schoolbuses having a capacity of ten or more students ~~and~~, for schoolbuses and school vehicles having a capacity of nine or fewer students and transporting students who live within the incorporated limits of a city in which the students' school is located, a sum equal to twenty-five cents per mile [1.61 kilometers], and for schoolbuses and school vehicles having a capacity of ten or more students and transporting students who live within the incorporated limits of a city in which the students' school is located, a sum equal to thirty-five cents per mile [1.61 kilometers]. School districts qualifying for payments for buses having a capacity of ten or more students are entitled to an amount equal to forty cents per day for each public school student living outside the city limits who is transported in such buses.
  - b. For students who ride schoolbuses or commercial buses to or from school and who live within the incorporated limits of the city within which the school that the students attend is located, a sum equal to twenty cents per student per one-way trip.

The mileage payments provided for in this subsection must be made to each school district for transporting students to and from school. Payments may be made only to school districts operating schoolbuses in accordance with the laws of this state relating to standards for schoolbuses, and to the qualifications of schoolbus drivers. Certification as to compliance with the laws of this state in regard to schoolbuses and their drivers must be made in such manner and detail as the superintendent of public instruction may require at the time an application is made for payments provided under this subsection."

Page 6, remove lines 1 through 4

Page 6, replace lines 12 through 20 with:

**"SECTION 17. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 15.1-27-26 of the North Dakota Century Code as created by House Bill No. 1045, as approved by the fifty-seventh legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. Each school district providing transportation to students in contract schoolbuses or in district-owned and operated schoolbuses, and each school district with students riding commercial buses to and from school is entitled to receive the following amounts:
  - a. Twenty-five cents per mile [1.61 kilometers] for each schoolbus and school vehicle having a capacity of nine or fewer students and transporting students who reside outside the incorporated limits of the city in which the students' school is located.
  - b. Sixty-seven cents per mile [1.61 kilometers] for each schoolbus and school vehicle having a capacity of ten or more students and transporting students who reside outside the incorporated limits of the city in which the students' school is located.
  - c. Twenty-five cents per mile [1.61 kilometers] for each schoolbus and school vehicle having a capacity of nine or fewer students and transporting students who reside within the incorporated limits of a city in which the students' school is located.
  - d. Thirty-five cents per mile [1.61 kilometers] for each schoolbus and school vehicle having a capacity of ten or more students and transporting students who reside within the incorporated limits of a city in which the students' school is located.
  - e. Twenty cents for each one-way trip by a student who rides a schoolbus or a commercial bus to or from school and who resides within the incorporated limits of the city in which the student's school is located.

**SECTION 18. APPROPRIATION - STATE BOARD FOR VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$13,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the state board for vocational and technical education for the purpose of providing grants to support vocational education programs for the biennium beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2003."

Renumber accordingly

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

### House Bill No. 1013 - Summary of Conference Committee Action

	EXECUTIVE BUDGET	HOUSE VERSION	CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHANGES	CONFERENCE COMMITTEE VERSION	SENATE VERSION	COMPARISON TO SENATE
Department of Public Instruction						
Total all funds	\$787,839,439	\$807,524,355	(\$5,019,356)	\$802,504,999	\$781,613,499	\$20,891,500
Less estimated income	237,017,455	237,044,955	(4,353,250)	232,691,705	232,691,705	
General fund	\$550,821,984	\$570,479,400	(\$666,106)	\$569,813,294	\$548,921,794	\$20,891,500
Division of Independent Study						

Total all funds	\$0	\$0	\$5,221,466	\$5,221,466	\$5,244,216	(\$22,750)
Less estimated income			<u>4,353,250</u>	<u>4,353,250</u>	<u>4,353,250</u>	
General fund	\$0	\$0	\$868,216	\$868,216	\$890,966	(\$22,750)
State Library						
Total all funds	\$4,713,513	\$4,713,513	\$0	\$4,713,513	\$4,713,513	\$0
Less estimated income	<u>1,598,857</u>	<u>1,598,857</u>		<u>1,598,857</u>	<u>1,598,857</u>	
General fund	\$3,114,656	\$3,114,656	\$0	\$3,114,656	\$3,114,656	\$0
School for the Deaf						
Total all funds	\$6,075,925	\$6,075,925	\$74,000	\$6,149,925	\$6,173,050	(\$23,125)
Less estimated income	<u>1,095,624</u>	<u>1,095,624</u>		<u>1,095,624</u>	<u>1,095,624</u>	
General fund	\$4,980,301	\$4,980,301	\$74,000	\$5,054,301	\$5,077,426	(\$23,125)
School for the Blind						
Total all funds	\$3,332,292	\$3,406,612	\$66,200	\$3,472,812	\$3,490,375	(\$17,563)
Less estimated income	<u>1,283,501</u>	<u>1,357,821</u>		<u>1,357,821</u>	<u>1,357,821</u>	
General fund	\$2,048,791	\$2,048,791	\$66,200	\$2,114,991	\$2,132,554	(\$17,563)
Vocational Education						
Total all funds	\$0	\$0	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$0	\$13,000
Less estimated income						
General fund	\$0	\$0	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$0	\$13,000
Bill Total						
Total all funds	\$801,961,169	\$821,720,405	\$355,310	\$822,075,715	\$801,234,653	\$20,841,062
Less estimated income	<u>240,995,437</u>	<u>241,097,257</u>		<u>241,097,257</u>	<u>241,097,257</u>	
General fund	\$560,965,732	\$580,623,148	\$355,310	\$580,978,458	\$560,137,396	\$20,841,062

### House Bill No. 1013 - Department of Public Instruction - Conference Committee Action

	EXECUTIVE BUDGET	HOUSE VERSION	CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHANGES	CONFERENCE COMMITTEE VERSION	SENATE VERSION	COMPARISON TO SENATE
Salaries and wages	\$12,273,865	\$12,170,316	(\$3,185,168)	\$8,985,148	\$9,085,148	(\$100,000)
Operating expenses	17,431,193	17,031,193	(1,721,113)	15,310,080	15,210,080	100,000
Equipment	534,140	534,140	(190,000)	344,140	344,140	
Capital improvements	55,000	55,000	(55,000)			
Grants - Foundation aid and transportation	485,542,761	461,035,668	12,935,980	473,971,648	488,166,148	(14,194,500)
Grants - Teacher compen- sation payments		46,640,055	(11,604,055)	35,036,000		35,036,000
Grants - Revenue supple- ment payments	3,450,000	3,450,000	(1,250,000)	2,200,000	2,200,000	
Grants - Tuition appor- tionment	67,239,025	67,239,025		67,239,025	67,239,025	
Grants - Special education	51,260,000	49,898,695		49,898,695	49,898,695	
Grants - Other grants	149,970,455	149,350,263	70,000	149,420,263	149,420,263	
Geographic education	50,000	100,000		100,000	50,000	50,000
National board certification	<u>33,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>(20,000)</u>			
Total all funds	\$787,839,439	\$807,524,355	(\$5,019,356)	\$802,504,999	\$781,613,499	\$20,891,500
Less estimated income	<u>237,017,455</u>	<u>237,044,955</u>	<u>(4,353,250)</u>	<u>232,691,705</u>	<u>232,691,705</u>	
General fund	\$550,821,984	\$570,479,400	(\$666,106)	\$569,813,294	\$548,921,794	\$20,891,500
FTE	131.95	130.95	(35.70)	95.25	95.25	0.00

### Dept. 201 - Department of Public Instruction - Detail of Conference Committee Changes

	RESTORE FTE AND REDUCE OPERATING EXPENSES <sup>1</sup>	ADD FUNDING FOR DUES TO THE EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES <sup>2</sup>	REDUCE FUNDING FOR TITLE I TESTING <sup>3</sup>	ADD FUNDING FOR LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY PAYMENTS <sup>4</sup>	REDUCE SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENTS <sup>5</sup>	RESTORE FUNDING FOR GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL <sup>6</sup>
Salaries and wages						
Operating expenses	(\$20,000)	\$89,100	(\$71,715)			
Equipment						
Capital improvements						
Grants - Foundation aid and transportation				\$200,000		
Grants - Teacher compen- sation payments						
Grants - Revenue supple- ment payments					(\$1,250,000)	
Grants - Tuition appor- tionment						
Grants - Special education						
Grants - Other grants						\$60,000
Geographic education						
National board certification						
Total all funds	(\$20,000)	\$89,100	(\$71,715)	\$200,000	(\$1,250,000)	\$60,000
Less estimated income						
General fund	(\$20,000)	\$89,100	(\$71,715)	\$200,000	(\$1,250,000)	\$60,000
FTE	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	REMOVE FUNDING FOR TEACHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM <sup>7</sup>	ADD FUNDING FOR TEACHER CENTERS <sup>8</sup>	REMOVE INDEPENDENT STUDY <sup>9</sup>	REMOVE TEACHER COMPENSATION PAYMENTS AND INCREASE FOUNDATION AID <sup>10</sup>	ADD FTE FOR DEVELOPING SCHOOL DISTRICT COMPENSATION REPORT <sup>11</sup>	TOTAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHANGES
Salaries and wages			(\$3,185,168)			(\$3,185,168)
Operating expenses			(1,718,498)			(1,721,113)
Equipment			(190,000)			(190,000)
Capital improvements			(55,000)			(55,000)
Grants - Foundation aid				\$12,735,980		12,935,980
and transportation						
Grants - Teacher compen-				(11,604,055)		(11,604,055)
sation payments						
Grants - Revenue supple-						(1,250,000)
ment payments						
Grants - Tuition appor-						
tionment						
Grants - Special education						
Grants - Other grants		\$10,000				70,000
Geographic education						
National board certification	(\$20,000)					(\$20,000)
Total all funds	(\$20,000)	\$10,000	(\$5,148,666)	\$1,131,925	\$0	(\$5,019,356)
Less estimated income			(4,353,250)			(4,353,250)
General fund	(\$20,000)	\$10,000	(\$795,416)	\$1,131,925	\$0	(\$666,106)
FTE	0.00	0.00	(37.70)	0.00	1.00	(35.70)

<sup>1</sup> The Conference Committee amendment restores one FTE removed by the House and reduces operating expenses by \$20,000. The Senate restored \$100,000 to salaries and wages reduced by the House and the FTE position removed by the House. In addition, the Senate removed \$120,000 from the operating expenses line item.

<sup>2</sup> The Conference Committee amendment includes the Senate change to add funding for dues to the Education Commission of the States.

<sup>3</sup> The House version of House Bill No. 1013 included a general fund appropriation of \$1,289,643 for developing and administering standards-based assessments, as required for the state to be eligible to continue receiving federal Title I funding. The Department of Public Instruction has received a proposal to develop and administer the required tests at a cost of \$1,212,928 for the 2001-03 biennium. In addition, the department has indicated that the cost of reporting the results, as required by House Bill No. 1293, will be an additional \$5,000. The Conference Committee and Senate versions provide \$1,217,928 to fully fund the federal Title I testing and the requirements of House Bill No. 1293.

<sup>4</sup> The Conference Committee and Senate versions increase the appropriation for limited English proficiency payments from \$450,000 to \$650,000 to provide for the payment levels specified in House Bill No. 1321.

<sup>5</sup> North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) Section 15-40.1-07.8 provides a formula for the distribution of supplemental payments to school districts. The formula limits the amount each district qualifies for and does not provide a mechanism to allow the distribution of any remaining funds. For the 1999-2001 biennium, the department estimates that \$420,838 will remain unspent and will be general fund turnback. For the 2001-03 biennium, the department estimates that the statutory formula will only allow the distribution of approximately \$2.2 million. The House amended NDCC Section 15-40.1-07.8 to allow the department to adjust the formula to distribute all supplemental payment funds appropriated for the 1999-2001 biennium and future bienniums. The Senate and Conference Committee versions remove the statutory changes proposed by the House and reduce the appropriation accordingly.

<sup>6</sup> The Conference Committee amendment includes the Senate change to increase funding for the Governor's school program by \$60,000, as included in the Schafer and Hoeven executive budget recommendations.

<sup>7</sup> The Schafer and Hoeven budget recommendations included \$33,000 for the teacher certification program. The House reduced the funding to \$20,000, which is the same as the amount appropriated for the 1999-2001 biennium. House Bill No. 1344 includes \$41,500 for this program. Consequently, this amendment removes the funding from this bill.

<sup>8</sup> The Conference Committee amendment includes the Senate change to increase funding for teacher centers.

<sup>9</sup> In the Conference Committee and Senate versions, funding and FTE authority relating to the Division of Independent Study are removed from the Department of Public Instruction and reflected in a separate subdivision of the bill.

<sup>10</sup> The teacher compensation payments line item is reduced and foundation aid is increased to reflect the payment levels provided in House Bill No. 1344.

<sup>11</sup> House Bill No. 1344 appropriates \$200,000 to the Department of Public Instruction for developing a school district employee compensation report. The appropriation provides salaries and related expenses for a new FTE position at the department.

## House Bill No. 1013 - Division of Independent Study - Conference Committee Action

	EXECUTIVE BUDGET	HOUSE VERSION	CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHANGES	CONFERENCE COMMITTEE VERSION	SENATE VERSION	COMPARISON TO SENATE
Salaries and wages			\$3,257,968	\$3,257,968	\$3,280,718	(\$22,750)
Operating expenses			1,718,498	1,718,498	1,718,498	
Equipment			190,000	190,000	190,000	
Capital improvements			55,000	55,000	55,000	
Total all funds	\$0	\$0	\$5,221,466	\$5,221,466	\$5,244,216	(\$22,750)
Less estimated income			4,353,250	4,353,250	4,353,250	
General fund	\$0	\$0	\$868,216	\$868,216	\$890,966	(\$22,750)
FTE	0.00	0.00	37.70	37.70	37.70	0.00

## Dept. 202 - Division of Independent Study - Detail of Conference Committee Changes

	SEPARATE FUNDING FOR DIVISION OF INDEPENDENT STUDY 1	ADD FUNDING FOR TEACHER COMPENSATION PAYMENTS 2	TOTAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHANGES
Salaries and wages	\$3,185,168	\$72,800	\$3,257,968
Operating expenses	1,718,498		1,718,498
Equipment	190,000		190,000
Capital improvements	<u>55,000</u>		<u>55,000</u>
Total all funds	\$5,148,666	\$72,800	\$5,221,466
Less estimated income	<u>4,353,250</u>		<u>4,353,250</u>
General fund	\$795,416	\$72,800	\$868,216
FTE	37.70	0.00	37.70

<sup>1</sup> Funding for the Division of Independent Study is moved to a separate subdivision of the bill. The House version for the division is reduced by \$400,000 (\$115,285 for salaries, \$4,715 for operating expenses, and \$280,000 for grants) for a federal grant which the department has indicated must continue to be administered by the Department of Public Instruction after authority for the division is moved from the Department of Public Instruction to the Educational Technology Council, as provided in Senate Bill No. 2251.

<sup>2</sup> The Conference Committee amendment increases the salaries and wages line item by \$72,800 (compared to \$95,500 in the Senate version) to provide additional compensation payments of \$1,750 per year for teachers at the Division of Independent Study.

## House Bill No. 1013 - School for the Deaf - Conference Committee Action

	EXECUTIVE BUDGET	HOUSE VERSION	CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHANGES	CONFERENCE COMMITTEE VERSION	SENATE VERSION	COMPARISON TO SENATE
Salaries and wages	\$4,814,058	\$4,814,058	\$74,000	\$4,888,058	\$4,911,183	(\$23,125)
Operating expenses	1,156,267	1,156,267		1,156,267	1,156,267	
Equipment	60,190	60,190		60,190	60,190	
Capital improvements	<u>45,410</u>	<u>45,410</u>		<u>45,410</u>	<u>45,410</u>	
Total all funds	\$6,075,925	\$6,075,925	\$74,000	\$6,149,925	\$6,173,050	(\$23,125)
Less estimated income	<u>1,095,624</u>	<u>1,095,624</u>		<u>1,095,624</u>	<u>1,095,624</u>	
General fund	\$4,980,301	\$4,980,301	\$74,000	\$5,054,301	\$5,077,426	(\$23,125)
FTE	53.10	53.10	0.00	53.10	53.10	0.00

## Dept. 252 - School for the Deaf - Detail of Conference Committee Changes

	ADD FUNDING FOR TEACHER COMPENSATION PAYMENTS 1	TOTAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHANGES
Salaries and wages	\$74,000	\$74,000
Operating expenses		
Equipment		
Capital improvements		
Total all funds	\$74,000	\$74,000
Less estimated income		
General fund	\$74,000	\$74,000
FTE	0.00	0.00

<sup>1</sup> The Conference Committee amendment increases the salaries and wages line item by \$74,000 (compared to \$97,125 in the Senate version) to provide additional compensation payments for teachers at the School for the Deaf.

## House Bill No. 1013 - School for the Blind - Conference Committee Action

	EXECUTIVE BUDGET	HOUSE VERSION	CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHANGES	CONFERENCE COMMITTEE VERSION	SENATE VERSION	COMPARISON TO SENATE
Salaries and wages	\$2,594,638	\$2,668,958	\$56,200	\$2,725,158	\$2,742,721	(\$17,563)
Operating expenses	652,238	652,238	10,000	662,238	662,238	
Equipment	60,000	60,000		60,000	60,000	
Capital improvements	<u>25,416</u>	<u>25,416</u>		<u>25,416</u>	<u>25,416</u>	
Total all funds	\$3,332,292	\$3,406,612	\$66,200	\$3,472,812	\$3,490,375	(\$17,563)
Less estimated income	<u>1,283,501</u>	<u>1,357,821</u>		<u>1,357,821</u>	<u>1,357,821</u>	
General fund	\$2,048,791	\$2,048,791	\$66,200	\$2,114,991	\$2,132,554	(\$17,563)
FTE	28.00	29.00	0.00	29.00	29.00	0.00

## Dept. 253 - School for the Blind - Detail of Conference Committee Changes

	ADD FUNDING FOR TEACHER COMPENSATION PAYMENTS <sup>1</sup>	ADD OPERATING EXPENSES FOR NEW FTE AND OTHER COSTS <sup>2</sup>	TOTAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHANGES
Salaries and wages	\$56,200		\$56,200
Operating expenses		\$10,000	10,000
Equipment			
Capital improvements			
Total all funds	\$56,200	\$10,000	\$66,200
Less estimated income			
General fund	\$56,200	\$10,000	\$66,200
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00

<sup>1</sup> The Senate amendment increases the salaries and wages line item by \$56,200 (compared to \$73,763 in the Senate version) to provide additional compensation payments for teachers at the School for the Blind.

<sup>2</sup> The House added a new training officer II position. The Senate amendment adds \$10,000 for operating expenses relating to the position and for other costs incurred by the agency.

This amendment changes Section 7 of the engrossed bill, which limits the number of FTE positions to be included in the department's 2003-05 biennium base budget request, to reflect the removal of the FTE positions relating to the Division of Independent Study and other FTE changes. The base budget request for the 2003-05 biennium will be limited to 94.25 FTE, one less than the Conference Committee version for the 2001-03 biennium.

This amendment also adds new sections as follows:

- Section 4 directs the Department of Public Instruction to use \$20,000 of the amount appropriated for operating expenses to fund the Red River Valley writing project. The Schafer and Hoeven executive recommendations and the House version included \$10,000 for this project. The Senate amendment directs the department to spend an additional \$10,000 for this project but does not provide additional funding.
- Section 5 directs the department to spend \$1,217,928 of the amount appropriated for operating expenses to develop and administer student tests aligned with the state content standards and to report the results of the tests.
- Section 6 provides that, in addition to other salary increases appropriated by the Legislative Assembly, teachers at the Division of Independent Study, the School for the Blind, and the School for the Deaf will be provided salary increases of \$1,000 for the first year of the biennium and an additional \$2,000 for the second year of the biennium (total of \$4,000 per teacher for the biennium). The Senate version provided a total of \$5,250 per teacher for the biennium. The amounts included in the salaries and wages line items for the respective agencies are:

Division of Independent Study - \$72,800

School for the Deaf - \$74,000

School for the Blind - \$56,200

- Sections 15 and 17 increase the reimbursement rate from 25 cents to 35 cents per mile for in-city busing for schoolbuses with a capacity of 10 or more students.
- Section 18, which appropriates \$13,000 from the general fund to the State Board for Vocational and Technical Education for grants.