

Introduced by

Senator Oehlke

Representatives D. Johnson, Hofstad

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for grants to assist certain institutions of higher  
2 education with the cost of interpreters and real-time captioning for students who are deaf or  
3 hard of hearing.

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

5 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the  
6 general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$200,000, or so much  
7 of the sum as may be necessary, to the North Dakota school for the deaf for the purpose of  
8 providing grants to assist institutions under the control of the state board of higher education  
9 with the cost of interpreters and real-time captioning for students who are deaf or hard of  
10 hearing, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2011. Moneys  
11 appropriated under this section are not subject to section 54-44.1-11.

12 **SECTION 2. USE OF FUNDS.**

- 13 1. The school for the deaf shall develop a formula to determine the grant amount for  
14 which an institution is eligible. The formula must be based on a uniform hourly  
15 reimbursement.
- 16 2. To obtain a grant under section 1 of this Act, an institution shall submit to the  
17 school for the deaf, at the time and in the manner directed by the school, invoices  
18 showing the amount expended for interpreters and real-time captioning for  
19 students who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- 20 3. The school for the deaf may not distribute more than fifty percent of the amount  
21 appropriated during the first year of the biennium.
- 22 4. If any grant moneys remain undistributed at the end of the biennium, the school for  
23 the deaf shall provide additional prorated grants to institutions that incurred, during  
24 the biennium, hourly expenses in excess of the formula reimbursement level.

- 1           5.   At the request of an institution under the control of the state board of higher
- 2                   education, the school for the deaf shall consult with the institution and provide
- 3                   advice regarding the provision of services most appropriate to meet a student's
- 4                   needs.