

Sixty-third
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2160

Introduced by

Senators J. Lee, Grindberg, Heckaman

Representatives Heilman, J. Nelson, Sanford

1 A BILL ~~for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15-10 of the North Dakota~~
2 ~~Century Code, relating to repayment notes from participants in professional student exchange~~
3 ~~programs; for an Act to provide for a North Dakota university system study of professional~~
4 ~~student exchange programs; and to provide for a report to the legislative management.~~

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

6 ~~**SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is created~~
7 ~~and enacted as follows:~~

8 ~~**Professional student exchange programs -- Notes -- Repayment.**~~

9 ~~1. Before the state board of higher education makes a payment to an out-of-state~~
10 ~~institution on behalf of an individual participating in a professional student exchange~~
11 ~~program in dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine, that individual must sign an~~
12 ~~annual note with the Bank of North Dakota in an amount equal to that by which the~~
13 ~~individual's tuition is reduced as a result of a contract between the institution and the~~
14 ~~board.~~

15 ~~2. If the individual who signed the note in accordance with subsection 1 is not practicing~~
16 ~~dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine in this state thirty-six months after the~~
17 ~~individual's date of graduation, the individual shall begin repaying the note, together~~
18 ~~with interest accruing from the date of signing, at the rate per annum established by~~
19 ~~the Bank of North Dakota.~~

20 ~~3. a. If the individual who signed the note in accordance with subsection 1 elects to~~
21 ~~practice dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine in this state, or if the~~
22 ~~individual begins to practice in this state at any time between the individual's~~
23 ~~graduation and thirty-six months thereafter, the Bank of North Dakota shall~~

1 ~~reduce the amount of the note by one-third, together with all accrued interest, for~~
2 ~~each full year the individual serves in that capacity.~~

3 ~~b. If an individual ceases to practice dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine in~~
4 ~~this state before the note is waived in its entirety, the individual shall repay the~~
5 ~~remaining portion of the note, together with interest accruing at the rate per~~
6 ~~annum established by the Bank of North Dakota, from the date that the individual~~
7 ~~ceased such practice.~~

8 ~~4. If the individual who signed the note in accordance with subsection 1 departs before~~
9 ~~graduation from a program in dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine, the~~
10 ~~individual shall begin repaying the note, at the time of departure, together with interest~~
11 ~~accruing from the date of signing, at the rate per annum established by the Bank of~~
12 ~~North Dakota.~~

13 ~~5. The Bank of North Dakota shall determine all other terms applicable to the time and~~
14 ~~manner in which the notes must be repaid.~~

15 ~~6. The Bank of North Dakota shall defer any repayment of a note otherwise due under~~
16 ~~this section, for the period of time the individual who signed the note is:~~

17 ~~a. Pursuing full-time graduate or postdoctoral studies; or~~

18 ~~b. Called to active duty as a member of the armed forces.~~

19 ~~7. The state board of higher education shall consult with the Bank of North Dakota and~~
20 ~~adopt rules implementing this section.~~

21 ~~8. This section is applicable only to individuals initially entering a professional student~~
22 ~~exchange program in dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine after June 30, 2014.~~

23 **SECTION 1. STUDY OF PROFESSIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMS -**

24 **REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.** The North Dakota university system shall
25 study the out-of-state programs in veterinary medicine, optometry, and dentistry, and in
26 particular the accessibility of North Dakota students to the programs; the provision of state
27 funding for students attending the programs; the amount of debt incurred by students attending
28 the programs; and the state's short-term and long-term needs for dentists, optometrists, and
29 veterinarians. Before November-15, 2013, the North Dakota university system shall report its
30 findings to the legislative management.