

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1187**

Introduced by

Representatives Louser, Fegley, Hoverson, Longmuir, Mock, Novak, Thomas, VanWinkle

Senator Elkin

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-09-33.1 of the North Dakota Century  
2 Code, relating to the authority of a school district to pay signing bonuses.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-09-33.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **15.1-09-33.1. School board authority - Payment of signing bonuses.**

- 7 1. The board of a school district may offer and, ~~upon the signing of the contract by both~~  
8 ~~parties,~~ pay a signing bonus to an individual who:
- 9 a. Is licensed ~~to teach~~ by the education standards and practices board or approved  
10 ~~to teach~~ by the education standards and practices board;
  - 11 b. Has signed a contract of employment ~~to serve as a classroom teacher~~ in the  
12 district; and
  - 13 c. ~~Was not~~ Has never been employed as a classroom teacher in the newly-assigned  
14 role by the board of a school district ~~in this state during the previous school year.~~
- 15 2. The board may pay to the individual the signing bonus authorized by subsection 1 in:
- 16 a. One lump sum upon the individual signing a contract of employment; or
  - 17 b. Installments over a period of time not to exceed ~~three~~five years from the date the  
18 individual signed a contract of employment.
- 19 3. A signing bonus paid under this section:
- 20 a. Is in addition to any amount payable under a negotiated teachers' contract; ~~and~~
  - 21 b. May not be included in the district's negotiated salary schedule; ~~and~~
  - 22 c. May not be included as salary for continuing contract purposes; ~~and~~
  - 23 d. May not be paid until the individual is licensed and qualified for the  
24 newly-assigned role by the education standards and practices board.

Sixty-eighth  
Legislative Assembly

- 1           e. May not be used for an individual employed the prior year by another school
- 2           district in the state until the individual has been employed in the district for
- 3           two years.