

Introduced by

Legislative Management

(Higher Education Committee)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15-10-38 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to the teacher shortage loan forgiveness program.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-10-38 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **15-10-38. Loans - Teacher shortages - Loan forgiveness.**

- 7 1. The state board of higher education shall administer a student loan forgiveness
8 program for individuals teaching at grade levels or in content areas identified as
9 having a teacher shortage. The board shall adopt rules to implement the program.
- 10 2. The superintendent of public instruction shall annually identify the grade levels and
11 content areas in which a teacher shortage exists.
- 12 3. To be eligible for loan forgiveness under this section, an individual:
- 13 a. ~~Must have been admitted as a full-time student in a teacher preparation program,~~
14 ~~with the declared intention~~ hold qualifying endorsements or credentials to teach
15 at a grade level or in a content area identified by the superintendent of public
16 instruction as one in which a teacher shortage exists; ~~and~~
- 17 b. ~~Must have obtained~~ a student loan with the Bank of North Dakota or other
18 participating lender; and
- 19 c. Must hold a current North Dakota educator's license.
- 20 4. An individual may receive up to one thousand five hundred dollars per year and a
21 maximum of ~~five~~six thousand dollars, or a lesser amount established by rule adopted
22 by the state board of higher education under this section.
- 23 5. The board shall consider all applications under this section in chronological order.

- 1 6. Upon notification that the individual has completed or will complete a full year of
- 2 teaching in a school district or nonpublic school in this state at a grade level or in a
- 3 content area identified by the superintendent of public instruction as one in which a
- 4 teacher shortage exists, the board shall distribute funds directly to the Bank of North
- 5 Dakota to repay outstanding loan principal balances for eligible applicants.
- 6 7. An individual may not receive a loan forgiveness award under this section if the
- 7 individual is receiving a loan forgiveness award under section 15-10-37 during the
- 8 same application year.