

Introduced by

Senators Bekkedahl, Davison, Schaible

Representatives Heinert, Nathe, Sanford

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1-09 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to a financial incentive to recruit licensed teachers.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15.1-09 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
5 and enacted as follows:

6 **Student teacher experience program - Grant.**

7 1. For purposes of this section:

8 a. "Rural school district" means a school district in a county with a population of
9 sixteen thousand or fewer, in a city with a population of five thousand or fewer, or
10 with a total average daily membership of fewer than six hundred students.

11 b. "Irregularly filled teaching position" means a teaching position filled by personnel
12 with emergency certification or a provisional license.

13 2. The superintendent of public instruction shall establish a student teacher experience
14 program to incentivize licensed teachers to remain in the state by providing grants to
15 participants.

16 3. The program must include a grant in a sum equal to:

17 a. Two hundred dollars for every week of student teaching; or

18 b. Four hundred dollars for every week of student teaching in a rural school district.

19 4. The superintendent of public instruction shall provide the grant to a program
20 participant if the individual enters a contract for employment with a public school
21 district in the state within two years of graduation.

22 5. The superintendent of public instruction shall develop an application process for
23 student teachers to participate in the program.

24 6. Student teacher placement preference must be given to:

- 1 a. Rural school districts.
- 2 b. School districts that have a high number of unfilled or irregularly filled teaching
- 3 positions.
- 4 c. School districts that have a high number of unfilled positions in high-need areas,
- 5 including special education, secondary mathematics, and secondary science.
- 6 7. The board of a rural school district shall ensure housing is available for a student
- 7 teacher participant within a reasonable distance from the placement school. The board
- 8 of a rural school district may provide a housing stipend for the student teacher
- 9 participant, but the superintendent of public instruction may not reimburse the school
- 10 district for the housing stipend.