

State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-SEVENTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2012

497T0696

SENATE BILL NO. 139

Introduced by: Senators Heineman, Adelstein, Johnston, Kraus, and Tidemann and Representatives Sly, Blake, Brunner, Dennert, Elliott, Fargen, Feickert, Gibson, Hawley, Hunhoff (Bernie), Iron Cloud III, Jones, Killer, Kirschman, Kloucek, Lucas, Miller, Olson (Betty), Schrempp, Sigdestad, Street, and Wismer

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to establish the Teach for America grant program within
2 the Department of Education and to make an appropriation therefor.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. There is hereby created a Teach for America grant program within the Department
5 of Education. The purpose of the grant program is to provide funding to Teach for America, a
6 nonprofit organization that provides alternative teacher recruitment and placement in public
7 schools in which a majority of the students are from low-income households. Through the grant
8 program, the state will partner with private contributors to fund an expansion of the Teach for
9 America program in the state that will allow the number of teachers placed to grow from fifty-
10 seven to one hundred by 2015. The expansion will allow Teach for America to positively impact
11 two-thirds of the Native American students on reservations in the state and more than half of
12 the Native American students statewide, and to strengthen its efforts to improve the academic
13 achievement of low-income, Native American students and to increase the educational



1 opportunities afforded them.

2 Funding through the grant program shall be provided to Teach for America over a period
3 of four fiscal years beginning on July 1, 2012. The amount of the grants provided pursuant to
4 this Act shall be based upon the amount of matching funds received by Teach for America from
5 private contributors, but the total amount of all grants provided may not exceed the total amount
6 of money appropriated for the grant fund.

7 Section 2. For each fiscal year of the grant program established in section 1 of this Act, the
8 secretary of education shall submit a report to the Governor and to the Legislature that provides
9 the following information:

- 10 (1) The amount of grant program funds provided to Teach for America for that fiscal
11 year;
- 12 (2) The amount of matching funds provided to Teach for America for that fiscal year
13 from private contributors;
- 14 (3) The progress of Teach for America's expansion efforts in South Dakota, including
15 the number of teachers placed and the number of students impacted; and
- 16 (4) The results that Teach for America is achieving in the state in closing the
17 achievement gap, providing enhanced educational opportunities, preparing students
18 for higher education, and in meeting any other goals established by the organization.

19 Section 3. There is hereby appropriated from the general fund the sum of one million five
20 hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, to the
21 Department of Education to fund the Teach for America grant program established pursuant to
22 this Act.

23 Section 4. The secretary of education shall approve vouchers and the state auditor shall draw
24 warrants to pay expenditures authorized by this Act.