

**SECOND ENGROSSMENT
with Conference Committee Amendments**

REENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2135

Introduced by

Education Committee

(At the request of the Education Standards and Practices Board)

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for national certification of teachers; and to provide an
2 appropriation.

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

4 **SECTION 1. Definitions.** As used in this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 5 1. "Board" means the education standards and practices board.
6 2. "Certification" means national board certification as provided by the national board.
7 3. "National board" means the national board for professional teaching standards.

8 **SECTION 2. Board duties.** The board shall:

- 9 1. Inform teachers of the national board certification program and the scholarships
10 and services the national board provides to teachers seeking certification.
11 2. Collect and review in the order received scholarship applications from individuals
12 who are licensed to teach by the board or approved to teach by the board.
13 3. a. Approve no more than seventeen applications per year;
14 b. During each year of the biennium, reserve three of the available scholarships
15 for individuals teaching at low-performing schools;
16 c. During each year of the biennium, award no more than two of the remaining
17 fourteen available scholarships to applicants employed by the same school
18 district;
19 d. Require the recipient to serve during the school year as a full-time classroom
20 teacher in a public or nonpublic school in this state; and
21 e. Require the recipient to participate in mentoring programs and teacher
22 evaluation programs developed and implemented in the employing school or
23 school district.

- 1 4. Ensure that all scholarship recipients receive adequate information regarding the
- 2 level of commitment required to acquire certification.
- 3 5. If any individual who receives a scholarship under this section does not complete
- 4 the certification process within the time allotted by the board, the individual must
- 5 reimburse the state an amount equal to one-half of the amount awarded to the
- 6 individual as a scholarship.

7 **SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the
8 general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$40,000, or so much
9 of the sum as may be necessary, to the education standards and practices board for the
10 purpose of procuring federal matching grants to provide for the national board certification of
11 teachers, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2003 and ending June 30, 2005.