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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 3486

02/15/2022 Authored by Pryor
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Taxes

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to taxation; individual income; modifying the credit for attaining a master's
1.3 degree in a teacher's licensure field; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section
1.4 290.0686.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 290.0686, is amended to read:

1.7 290.0686 CREDIT FOR ATTAINING MASTER'S DEGREE IN TEACHER'S
1.8 LICENSURE FIELD.

1.9 Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have
1.10 the meanings given them.

1.11 (b) "Master's degree program" means a graduate-level program at an accredited university
1.12 leading to a master of arts or science degree in a ~~core content~~ qualified subject area directly
1.13 ~~related to a qualified teacher's licensure field. The~~ A master's degree program in a core
1.14 content area may not include pedagogy or a pedagogy component. To be eligible under this
1.15 ~~credit, a licensed elementary school teacher must pursue and complete a master's degree~~
1.16 ~~program in a core content area in which the teacher provides direct classroom instruction.~~

1.17 (c) "Qualified subject area" means:

1.18 (1) a core content area directly related to a qualified teacher's licensure field;

1.19 (2) special education; or

1.20 (3) education or education pedagogy.

1.21 (d) "Qualified teacher" means a person who:

2.1 (1) holds a teaching license issued by the licensing division in the Department of
2.2 Education on behalf of the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board both when
2.3 the teacher begins the master's degree program and when the teacher completes the master's
2.4 degree program;

2.5 (2) began a master's degree program after June 30, 2017; and

2.6 (3) completes the master's degree program during the taxable year.

2.7 ~~(d)~~ (e) "Core content area" means the academic subject of reading, English or language
2.8 arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts,
2.9 history, or geography.

2.10 Subd. 2. **Credit allowed.** (a) An individual who is a qualified teacher is allowed a credit
2.11 against the tax imposed under this chapter. The credit equals the lesser of \$2,500 or the
2.12 amount the individual paid for tuition, fees, books, and instructional materials necessary to
2.13 completing the master's degree program and for which the individual did not receive
2.14 reimbursement from an employer or scholarship.

2.15 (b) For a nonresident or a part-year resident, the credit under this subdivision must be
2.16 allocated based on the percentage calculated under section 290.06, subdivision 2c, paragraph
2.17 (e).

2.18 (c) A qualified teacher may claim the credit in this section only one time for each master's
2.19 degree program completed in a ~~core content~~ qualified subject area.

2.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December
2.21 31, 2021.