

SENATE

STATE OF MINNESOTA

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

S.F. No. 2433

(SENATE AUTHORS: DAHLE)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/10/2016	4940	Introduction and first reading Referred to Education

A bill for an act
relating to education; creating the Teacher Shortage Act; appropriating money;
amending Laws 2015, chapter 69, article 1, section 3, subdivision 28; Laws 2015,
First Special Session chapter 3, article 2, section 70, subdivision 12; proposing
coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 136A.

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

Section 1. **CITATION.**

Sections 1 to 10 may be cited as the "Teacher Shortage Act."

Sec. 2. **[136A.1275] GRANTS TO STUDENT TEACHERS IN SHORTAGE AREAS.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The commissioner of the Office of Higher Education must establish a grant program for students who are required to student teach as part of their teacher preparation program.

Subd. 2. **Eligibility.** In order to receive a grant, the applicant must:

(1) be enrolled in a Minnesota teacher preparation program that would enable the applicant, upon graduation, to teach in a Minnesota school district in a shortage area;

(2) agree to teach in a shortage area for at least five years after graduating from the teacher preparation program; and

(3) demonstrate financial need in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner of the Office of Higher Education. "Shortage area" has the same meaning given in section 122A.18, subdivision 4a.

Subd. 3. **Administration; repayment.** The office must determine the time and manner of applications. The office must determine the stipend amount based on the money available and the number of eligible applicants each academic year. If a stipend recipient

2.1 is employed in a shortage area, the recipient must remain employed in the shortage area
 2.2 for five years or repay a portion of the amount received prorated by the number of years
 2.3 the recipient has taught in the shortage area.

2.4 Sec. 3. Laws 2015, chapter 69, article 1, section 3, subdivision 28, is amended to read:

2.5			200,000
2.6	Subd. 28. Teacher Shortage Loan Forgiveness	200,000	<u> </u>

2.7 For the loan forgiveness program under
 2.8 Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1791.

2.9 The commissioner may use no more
 2.10 than three percent of this appropriation
 2.11 to administer the program under this
 2.12 subdivision.

2.13 Sec. 4. Laws 2015, First Special Session chapter 3, article 2, section 70, subdivision
 2.14 12, is amended to read:

2.15 Subd. 12. **Collaborative urban educator.** For the collaborative urban educator
 2.16 grant program:

2.17	\$	780,000	2016
2.18		780,000		
2.19	\$	<u> </u>	2017

2.20 Grants shall be awarded in equal amounts: ~~\$195,000~~ \$..... each year is for the
 2.21 Southeast Asian teacher program at Concordia University, St. Paul; ~~\$195,000~~ \$..... each
 2.22 year is for the collaborative urban educator program at the University of St. Thomas;
 2.23 ~~\$195,000~~ \$..... each year is for the Center for Excellence in Urban Teaching at Hamline
 2.24 University; and ~~\$195,00~~ \$..... each year is for the East Africa Student to Teacher program
 2.25 at Augsburg College.

2.26 Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

2.27 Each institution shall prepare for the legislature, by January 15 of each year, a
 2.28 detailed report regarding the funds used. The report must include the number of teachers
 2.29 prepared as well as the diversity for each cohort of teachers produced.

2.30 Sec. 5. **STATEWIDE SCHOOL TEACHER AND ADMINISTRATOR JOB**
 2.31 **BOARD.**

3.1 The Board of Teaching must contract for an electronic statewide school teacher and
3.2 administrator job board. The job board must allow school districts to post job openings for
3.3 prekindergarten through grade 12 teaching and administrative positions.

3.4 Sec. 6. **PARAPROFESSIONAL PATHWAY TO TEACHER LICENSURE.**

3.5 The commissioner of education must establish a grant program for school districts
3.6 to design, establish, and maintain a paraprofessional pathway to teacher licensure or a
3.7 grow your own new teacher program. The programs must allow a current school district
3.8 paraprofessional with a bachelor's degree to pursue their teaching license while still being
3.9 employed by the school district. A school district may apply in the form and manner
3.10 prescribed by the commissioner.

3.11 Sec. 7. **BOARD OF TEACHING TO AMEND SCIENCE LICENSURE RULES.**

3.12 The Board of Teaching must use the expedited rulemaking process under Minnesota
3.13 Statutes, section 14.389, to amend Minnesota Rules, part 8710.4750, to allow a teacher
3.14 holding a grade 9 through 12 science license with at least three years of experience to
3.15 obtain a general science teaching license for grades 5 through 8 by passing an exam.

3.16 Sec. 8. **SPECIAL EDUCATION EDUCATOR PROGRAMS REPORT.**

3.17 By December 15, 2016, the chancellor of the Minnesota State Colleges and
3.18 Universities must prepare and submit to the committees of the legislature having
3.19 jurisdiction over kindergarten through grade 12 education and higher education a report
3.20 on the special education educator programs available at the state colleges and universities,
3.21 which institutions offer the specific special education educator programs, and the number
3.22 of graduates over the last five years.

3.23 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.24 Sec. 9. **OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION; APPROPRIATION.**

3.25 \$..... in fiscal year 2017 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner
3.26 of the Office of Higher Education for grants to student teachers in shortage areas under
3.27 Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1275.

3.28 Sec. 10. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

4.1

Subdivision 1. **Department of Education.** The sums indicated in this section are

4.2

appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Education in the fiscal years

4.3

designated.

4.4

Subd. 2. **Statewide job board.** For transfer to the Board of Teaching for the

4.5

statewide school teacher and administrator job board:

4.6

\$ 79,000 2017

4.7

Subd. 3. **Paraprofessional pathway to teacher licensure.** For grants to school

4.8

districts for grow your own new teacher programs:

4.9

\$ 2017