

# State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-THIRD SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2008

587P0717

## SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

### ENGROSSED NO. **SB 181** - 2/7/2008

**This bill has been extensively amended (hoghoused) and may no longer be consistent with the original intention of the sponsor.**

Introduced by: Senators Greenfield, Bartling, Duenwald, Gant, Garnos, Gray, Hansen (Tom), Hanson (Gary), Hoerth, Knudson, Maher, McNenny, Napoli, Nesselhuf, Olson (Ed), Peterson (Jim), Sutton, Turbak Berry, and Two Bulls and Representatives Nelson, Boomgarden, Cutler, Davis, DeVries, Gilson, Hackl, Haverly, Hills, Jerke, Kirkeby, Koistinen, Krebs, McLaughlin, Noem, Novstrup (Al), Novstrup (David), Peters, Rounds, Street, and Turbiville

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to create the South Dakota teachers tuition reimbursement  
2 program.

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

4 Section 1. There is hereby established the South Dakota teacher tuition reimbursement  
5 program.

6 Section 2. Any secondary teacher or any special education teacher who is fully certified  
7 pursuant to chapter 13-42 and agrees to teach for a period of at least five academic years in a  
8 local school district in an area of critical need as defined by the secretary of education or in an  
9 educational cooperative is eligible to participate in the South Dakota teacher tuition  
10 reimbursement program.

11 Section 3. Each participating teacher who fulfills the requirements of the program is entitled  
12 to receive tuition reimbursement in an amount equal to the resident tuition which the teacher



1 would have paid if the teacher had attended a state university during the teacher's four most  
2 recently completed academic years. The amount of reimbursement does not include any interest  
3 incurred by the participating teacher.

4 Section 4. Any agreement for the reimbursement of tuition pursuant to this Act shall obligate  
5 the school district or educational cooperative to pay a portion of the reimbursement. When the  
6 school district or educational cooperative certifies to the secretary of education that it has paid  
7 the full amount for which it is obligated, the secretary of the Department of Education shall pay  
8 to the teacher the remaining balance of the total tuition reimbursement amount. Reimbursement  
9 shall be paid by the department upon the teacher's completion of the five years of teaching as  
10 required in this Act. However, the school district or educational cooperative may pay its share  
11 of tuition reimbursement in installments during the required five-year period.

12 Section 5. The portion of the tuition reimbursement which the school district or educational  
13 cooperative shall pay pursuant to this Act is as follows:

14 (1) For any school district that has a fall enrollment of less than nine hundred and for any  
15 educational cooperative, the school district's or educational cooperative's share of any  
16 tuition reimbursement is fifty percent; and

17 (2) For any school district that has a fall enrollment of nine hundred or greater, the  
18 school district's share of any tuition reimbursement is seventy-five percent.

19 Section 6. Any school district participating in a tuition reimbursement agreement pursuant  
20 to this Act is eligible to receive funds, based upon the school district's fall enrollment, from the  
21 teacher compensation assistance program established in § 13-3-73 to assist the district in paying  
22 its portion of the tuition reimbursement.

23 Section 7. No tuition reimbursement agreement entered into pursuant to this Act is effective  
24 until it is filed with and approved by the secretary of education.

1       Section 8. No teacher is eligible to participate in the tuition reimbursement program  
2 established in this Act if the teacher previously participated in the program or any other federal  
3 or state financial assistance program which obligates the teacher to teach in a specific subject  
4 area or geographic region.

5       Section 9. The Department of Education shall promulgate rules pursuant to chapter 1-26 to  
6 define areas of critical need for the purposes of this Act, to establish timelines and criteria for  
7 the approval of tuition reimbursement agreements, and to provide for the certification of the  
8 tuition reimbursement payments made by a school district or educational cooperative.