

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1275

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCE EDUCATION PROGRAMS; AMEND-
2 ING CHAPTER 16, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION
3 33-1629, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS RELATING TO IDAHO QUALITY
4 PROGRAM STANDARDS INCENTIVE GRANTS, TO ESTABLISH THE QUALITY PROGRAM
5 STANDARDS INCENTIVE GRANT FUND, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS RELATING TO
6 A REQUEST FOR FUNDING, TO PROVIDE FOR RULES, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS
7 RELATING TO A START-UP GRANT PROGRAM, TO ESTABLISH THE AGRICULTURAL AND
8 NATURAL RESOURCE EDUCATION PROGRAM START-UP GRANT FUND, TO ESTABLISH
9 PROVISIONS RELATING TO A REQUEST FOR FUNDING, TO PROVIDE FOR RULES AND
10 TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPLICATION OF LAW.
11

12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

13 SECTION 1. That Chapter 16, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is
14 hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-
15 ignated as Section 33-1629, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

16 33-1629. AGRICULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCE EDUCATION PRO-
17 GRAMS. (1) Idaho Quality Program Standards Incentive Grants.

18 (a) The board of professional-technical education shall adopt and
19 implement Idaho quality program standards for agricultural and nat-
20 ural resource education programs offered in any grade 9 through 12.
21 Such standards shall apply to the areas of instruction, curriculum
22 development, advisory committees, student development and community
23 development. Such standards shall be used to assess the quality of lo-
24 cal programs and to set goals for continued program improvement.

25 (b) The board of professional-technical education shall establish and
26 administer an incentive grant program for instructors of agricultural
27 and natural resource education programs offered in any grade 9 through
28 12 where such programs meet or exceed the applicable Idaho quality
29 program standards as determined by the board. A district may apply to
30 the board, on behalf of an instructor, for a grant provided for in this
31 subsection. The board shall develop an application form and criteria
32 to judge each application for the grant program. Grant awards shall
33 be made by the board to instructors of programs that meet or exceed the
34 criteria established by the board. The maximum amount of an incentive
35 grant as provided for in this section shall be ten thousand dollars
36 (\$10,000).

37 (c) There is hereby created in the state treasury the quality program
38 standards incentive grant fund, to which shall be credited all moneys
39 both public and private that may be appropriated, allocated, donated,
40 distributed to or otherwise provided for by law. Moneys in the fund
41 shall be used exclusively for incentive grants as provided for in this
42 subsection. Moneys in the fund shall be continuously appropriated for

1 the purposes of this incentive grant program. All idle moneys in the
2 fund shall be invested by the state treasurer in a like manner as pro-
3 vided for in section 67-1210, Idaho Code, with respect to other surplus
4 or idle moneys in the state treasury. Interest earned on the invest-
5 ments shall be returned to the fund.

6 (d) The board of professional-technical education shall in its annual
7 budget request to the legislature request funding for the grant program
8 provided for in this section.

9 (e) The board of professional-technical education shall adopt rules to
10 implement the grant program established by this subsection.

11 (2) Agricultural Education Program Start-Up Grants.

12 (a) The board of professional-technical education shall establish and
13 administer a start-up grant program for school districts and public
14 charter schools to begin or to re-establish an agricultural and natural
15 resource education program in any grade 9 through 12.

16 (b) The board shall develop an application form and criteria to judge
17 each application for a start-up grant. Any school district or public
18 charter school may apply for a start-up grant.

19 (c) There shall be no more than four (4) start-up grants awarded per
20 school year. The maximum award for any one (1) start-up grant shall be
21 twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).

22 (d) There is hereby created in the state treasury the agricultural and
23 natural resource education program start-up grant fund, to which shall
24 be credited all moneys both public and private that may be appropriated,
25 allocated, donated, distributed to or otherwise provided for by law.
26 Moneys in the fund shall be used exclusively for start-up grants as pro-
27 vided for in this subsection. Moneys in the fund shall be continuously
28 appropriated for the purposes of this start-up grant program. All idle
29 moneys in the fund shall be invested by the state treasurer in a like
30 manner as provided for in section 67-1210, Idaho Code, with respect to
31 other surplus or idle moneys in the state treasury. Interest earned on
32 the investments shall be returned to the fund.

33 (e) The board of professional-technical education shall in its annual
34 budget request to the legislature request funding for the grant program
35 provided for in this subsection.

36 (f) The board of professional-technical education shall adopt rules to
37 implement the grant program established by this subsection.

38 (3) The provisions of this section shall apply to agricultural and nat-
39 ural resource education programs provided for in grades 9 through 12.