

State of South Dakota

NINETY-SECOND SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2017

965Y0136

SENATE BILL NO. 110

Introduced by: Senators Sutton, Frerichs, Heinert, Kennedy, Killer, and Nesiba and
Representatives Bartling, Ahlers, Lesmeister, McCleerey, Ring, Smith, and
Wismer

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to establish a tuition reimbursement program for certain
2 teachers who teach in rural school districts.

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

4 Section 1. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

5 Terms used in this Act mean:

- 6 (1) "Eligible teacher," a teacher who teaches in a rural school district, whose first year
7 of teaching is after the 2016-2017 school year, who graduated from an accredited
8 postsecondary institution located in South Dakota, and who complies with the
9 provisions of this Act;
- 10 (2) "Postsecondary tuition and fees," the tuition and generally applicable fees for thirty
11 credit hours per year at a postsecondary institution under the control of the Board of
12 Regents as of July 1, 2017;
- 13 (3) "Rural school district," a school district located in a community with a population of
14 ten thousand persons or less.



1 Section 2. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

2 The Department of Education shall establish a tuition reimbursement program for teachers
3 to assist rural school districts in recruiting teachers. The department shall select up to twenty
4 eligible teachers each year to participate in the tuition reimbursement program.

5 Section 3. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

6 Following an eligible teacher's third year of teaching in a rural school district, the teacher
7 shall receive reimbursement for four years of postsecondary tuition and fees. The Department
8 of Education shall reimburse the teacher from funds appropriated by the Legislature for that
9 purpose.

10 Section 4. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

11 The Department of Education shall promulgate rules pursuant to chapter 1-26 to establish
12 procedures for eligible teachers to apply for tuition reimbursement, for the selection of eligible
13 teachers to participate in the program, and for the distribution of reimbursement funds.