



## 2023 South Dakota Legislature

# House Bill 1044

Introduced by: **Representatives** Rehfeldt, Deutsch, Healy, Ernie Otten, and Stevens and **Senators** Tobin, Reed, Schoenfish, and Wheeler at the request of the Study Committee on Juvenile Justice

1 **An Act to make an appropriation to fund scholarships for individuals entering into**  
2 **the behavioral health field.**

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

4 **Section 1.** There is hereby appropriated from the general fund the sum of \$20,000,000 to  
5 the Department of Health, for purposes of funding scholarships to promote behavioral health  
6 careers and support individuals entering into the behavioral health field, and to provide an  
7 incentive for individuals to remain in South Dakota. Each recipient must promise to enter a  
8 behavioral health occupation in South Dakota following completion of the program of study.  
9 The number of years a recipient must work in a behavioral health occupation to fulfill the  
10 entire obligation is equal to the sum of the number of years of scholarship received, plus one  
11 year.

12 **Section 2.** The secretary of the Department of Health shall approve vouchers and the state  
13 auditor shall draw warrants to pay expenditures authorized by this Act.

14 **Section 3.** Any amounts appropriated in this Act not lawfully expended or obligated shall  
15 revert in accordance with the procedures prescribed in chapter 4-8.