



2024 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1137

Introduced by: **Representative** Venhuizen

1 **An Act to provide for a minimum teacher salary.**

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

3 **Section 1. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 13-13:**

4 Beginning July 1, 2026, each public school district must pay each full-time teacher
 5 a salary at least equal to the state minimum salary. For each fiscal year, if a district's
 6 minimum salary for a full-time teacher is less than the state minimum salary, state aid to
 7 general education funding to the district in the following fiscal year must be reduced by
 8 an amount equal to five hundred dollars for each teacher employed in the school district.

9 A school district may request a waiver from any penalty imposed under this section
 10 from the School Finance Accountability Board.

11 For the purposes of this section, the term "state minimum salary" is forty-five
 12 thousand dollars for fiscal year 2025. For fiscal year 2026 and thereafter, the state
 13 minimum salary is calculated by increasing the previous year's state minimum salary by
 14 the cumulative increases approved by the Legislature in fiscal year 2026 and thereafter to
 15 the target teacher salary, as defined in § 13-13-10.1.

16 **Section 2. That § 1-45-38 be AMENDED:**

17 **1-45-38.** There is hereby created the School Finance Accountability Board within
 18 the Department of Education. The board ~~shall consist~~ consists of five members appointed
 19 by the Governor. The members ~~shall~~ serve a term of four years.

20 The board may recommend that the provisions of § 13-13-73.5 be waived for a
 21 school district if the district can demonstrate that its lowest monthly general cash fund
 22 cash balance percentage is the result of special circumstances.

23 The board may recommend that a penalty against a school district imposed under
 24 section 1 of this Act or § 13-13-73.6 be waived, in whole or in part, if the district can

1 demonstrate that its failure to comply with section 1 of this Act or § 13-13-73.6 is due to
2 special circumstances.

3 The School Finance Accountability Board shall promulgate rules, pursuant to
4 chapter 1-26, to establish the appeals process provided for in section 1 of this Act or § 13-
5 13-73.6, and to establish the factors that may be considered in considering a waiver
6 requested by a school district, which shall include the impact of retirements.

7 The Joint Committee on Appropriations or the Interim Committee on Appropriations
8 shall review any waivers of ~~§ 13-13-73.5 or~~ § 13-13-73.6, or section 1 of this Act
9 recommended by the School Finance Accountability Board. For a waiver recommended by
10 the board under this section, the committee may provide any suggested change to the
11 waiver. Not more than thirty days following receipt of a suggested change from the
12 committee, the board may amend the recommended waiver in accordance with the
13 suggested change and shall resubmit the recommended waiver. The Joint Committee on
14 Appropriations or the Interim Committee on Appropriations shall approve, amend, or deny
15 any waiver recommended by the board. The Department of Education shall annually report
16 to the Governor and the Legislature the information collected pursuant to ~~§§ 13-8-47 and~~
17 §§ 13-13-73.6, and section 1 of this Act.