



2025 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1039

Introduced by: The Chair of the Committee on Education at the request of the Department of Education

1 **An Act to repeal the programs reimbursing a teacher or school counselor for earning**
 2 **national board certification.**

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

4 **Section 1. That § 13-1-54 be REPEALED.**

5 ~~The Department of Education may establish a program to reimburse public school~~
 6 ~~counselors for the fees associated with the application and examination process necessary~~
 7 ~~to earn the credential of National Certified School Counselor from the National Board for~~
 8 ~~Counselor Certification. The reimbursement shall include any federal funds that may be~~
 9 ~~available through a candidate subsidy program. The reimbursement shall be paid upon~~
 10 ~~receipt of documentation that the public school counselor successfully completed all of the~~
 11 ~~certification requirements which took effect on January 1, 2004, and was awarded the~~
 12 ~~credential.~~

13 ~~In addition to the reimbursement provided in this section, a counselor who is~~
 14 ~~employed by a school district and who has earned the credential of National Certified~~
 15 ~~School Counselor from the National Board for Counselor Certification may receive a~~
 16 ~~payment of two thousand dollars per year. The stipend shall be paid as follows:~~

- 17 ~~(1) One thousand dollars from the Department of Education; and~~
 18 ~~(2) One thousand dollars from the school district that employs the counselor.~~

19 ~~The department is not required to pay a teacher a stipend pursuant to this section~~
 20 ~~unless the school district employing the counselor opts to pay a stipend.~~

21 **Section 2. That § 13-1-55 be REPEALED.**

22 ~~The Board of Education Standards shall promulgate rules, pursuant to chapter 1-~~
 23 ~~26, establishing the procedures for documenting the necessary certification and for~~
 24 ~~providing the payments required in § 13-1-54.~~

1 **Section 3. That § 13-42-26 be REPEALED.**

2 ~~The Department of Education shall establish a program to reimburse public school~~
3 ~~teachers for the application and processing fee for the National Board for Professional~~
4 ~~Teaching Standards certification process. The reimbursement shall include any federal~~
5 ~~funds that may be available through a candidate subsidy program. The reimbursement~~
6 ~~shall be paid upon receipt of documentation that the teacher successfully completed all~~
7 ~~certification requirements and was awarded the credential.~~

8 ~~In addition to the reimbursement provided pursuant to this section, a teacher who~~
9 ~~teaches in a public school and who has obtained certification by the National Board for~~
10 ~~Professional Teaching Standards shall receive a payment of two thousand dollars per year~~
11 ~~for five years. The stipend shall be paid as follows:~~

12 ~~(1) One thousand dollars from the Department of Education;~~

13 ~~(2) One thousand dollars from the school district where the teacher is employed.~~

14 ~~Once the first five years is complete, the school district that employs the teacher~~
15 ~~may opt to continue payments during the period of the next five years. If, during that~~
16 ~~period, the school district pays the teacher a stipend, the Department of Education shall~~
17 ~~also pay the teacher a stipend equal to the amount offered by the school district, up to a~~
18 ~~maximum of one thousand dollars. However, the department is not required to pay a~~
19 ~~teacher a stipend pursuant to this section during years six to ten unless the school district~~
20 ~~employing the teacher opts to pay a stipend.~~

21 ~~The Board of Education Standards shall adopt rules, pursuant to chapter 1-26, to~~
22 ~~establish guidelines necessary to implement the program.~~