

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-SEVENTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2002

337H0178

HOUSE BILL NO. 1085

Introduced by: Representatives McCaulley, Garnos, and Wick

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to establish a master teacher incentive fund to reward
2 certain teachers and to create an appropriation therefor.

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

4 Section 1. There is hereby established under the Department of Education and Cultural
5 Affairs a master teacher incentive fund. The master teacher incentive fund shall be used to reward
6 qualified teachers in qualified school districts by means of a yearly bonus of not more than six
7 thousand dollars each year.

8 Section 2. A portion of the fund shall be allocated to each qualified school district according
9 to its relative portion of the total average daily membership as defined in § 13-13-10.1. Any
10 qualified school district may access a portion of the master teacher incentive fund if the school
11 district implements a plan to reward teachers who demonstrate excellence and mastery in their
12 profession.

13 Section 3. If a qualified school district has identified any teacher who has demonstrated
14 excellence and mastery, the qualified school district shall provide a written recommendation and
15 substantiation, along with the specific amount of the bonus to be paid, to the Department of



1 Education and Cultural Affairs after March first and before April fifteenth.

2 Section 4. For purposes of this Act, a qualified teacher is one who meets the following
3 criteria:

- 4 (1) Holds a valid teaching certificate;
- 5 (2) Has taught at least two years in the qualifying school district; and
- 6 (3) Exhibits excellence and mastery in both a subject area and teaching methods or
7 exhibits excellence and mastery in mentoring.

8 Section 5. For purposes of this Act, a qualified school district is one that meets the following
9 criteria:

- 10 (1) Has a general fund balance of not more than thirty-five percent of total general fund
11 expenditures for the previous school year;
- 12 (2) Has implemented a teacher mentoring program in accordance with the guidelines
13 established by the Department of Education and Cultural Affairs;
- 14 (3) Rewards not more than twenty-five percent of its teachers, in any calendar year, with
15 money from the master teacher incentive fund; and
- 16 (4) Awards money to master teachers without a reduction or offset in their regular salary.

17 Section 6. There is hereby appropriated from the general fund the sum of three million dollars
18 (\$3,000,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, to the master teacher incentive fund.

19 Section 7. The secretary of the Department of Education and Cultural Affairs shall approve
20 vouchers and the state auditor shall draw warrants to pay expenditures authorized by this Act.

21 Section 8. Any amounts appropriated in this Act not lawfully expended or obligated by
22 June 30, 2003, shall revert in accordance with § 4-8-21.