
SENATE BILL 6272

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Senators Kastama, Kline, McAuliffe and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 01/10/2006. Referred to Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to assistance for teachers pursuing national board
2 certification; and adding a new chapter to Title 28A RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Unless the context clearly requires
5 otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this
6 chapter.

7 (1) "Eligible teacher" means an individual currently employed as a
8 teacher in a Washington public school district and eligible for
9 national board certification candidacy from the national board for
10 professional teaching standards.

11 (2) "National board certification" means certification from the
12 national board for professional teaching standards.

13 (3) "Participant" means an eligible teacher who has received a zero
14 interest loan under this chapter.

15 (4) "Program" means the zero interest loans to obtain national
16 board certification program.

17 (5) "Superintendent" means the office of the superintendent of
18 public instruction.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The zero interest loans to obtain national
2 board certification program is established. The program shall be
3 administered by the superintendent. In administering the program, the
4 superintendent shall:

- 5 (1) Select eligible teachers to receive loans;
- 6 (2) Adopt necessary rules and guidelines;
- 7 (3) Publicize the program;
- 8 (4) Collect and manage repayments from eligible teachers; and
- 9 (5) Solicit and accept grants and donations from public and private
10 sources for the program.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The superintendent shall design the program
12 based on the following parameters:

13 (1) Loans shall be made to eligible teachers currently teaching in
14 a Washington public school district.

15 (2) Zero interest loans are not intended to supplant any grant,
16 scholarship, or tax program related to national board certification.
17 If the superintendent finds that zero interest loans supplant or reduce
18 any grant, scholarship, or tax program for categories of eligible
19 teachers, then the superintendent shall adjust the amount of the loan
20 to the level necessary to avoid supplanting.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The superintendent may provide zero interest
22 loans to eligible teachers from the funds appropriated to the
23 superintendent for this purpose, or from any private donations, or any
24 other funds given to the superintendent for this program. The amount
25 loaned to an individual may not exceed the amount of the national board
26 certification application fee. Participants are eligible to receive
27 additional zero interest loans to cover national board certification
28 retake fees.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) Participants in the program incur an
30 obligation to repay the loan upon completion of the national board
31 certification program or two years after they receive a loan under this
32 chapter, whichever is earlier.

33 (2) Participants who fail to complete the program must repay their
34 loan beginning no later than two years after they first received the
35 loan.

1 (3) The minimum payment shall be set by the superintendent. The
2 maximum period for repayment shall be ten years, with payments of
3 principal and interest accruing quarterly commencing six months from
4 the date the participant completes or discontinues the program.
5 Provisions for deferral of payment shall be determined by the
6 superintendent.

7 (4) The superintendent is responsible for collection of repayments
8 made under this section and shall exercise due diligence in such
9 collection, maintaining all necessary records to ensure that maximum
10 repayments are made. Collection and servicing of repayments under this
11 section shall be pursued using the full extent of the law, including
12 wage garnishment if necessary.

13 (5) Receipts from the payment of principal or any other subsidies
14 to which the superintendent as administrator is entitled, which are
15 paid by or on behalf of participants under this section, shall be
16 deposited in the zero interest loans for national board certification
17 account and shall be used to cover the costs of granting the loans,
18 maintaining necessary records, and making collections under subsection
19 (4) of this section. The superintendent shall maintain accurate
20 records of these costs, and all receipts beyond those necessary to pay
21 such costs shall be used to grant loans to eligible teachers.

22 (6) The superintendent shall adopt rules to define the terms of
23 repayment, including fees and deferments.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** (1) The zero interest loans for national
25 board certification account is created in the custody of the state
26 treasurer. An appropriation is not required for expenditures of funds
27 from the account. The account is not subject to allotment procedures
28 under chapter 43.88 RCW except for moneys used for program
29 administration.

30 (2) The superintendent shall deposit in the account all moneys
31 received for the program. The account shall be self-sustaining and
32 consist of funds appropriated by the legislature for the program,
33 private contributions to the program, and receipts from participant
34 repayments.

35 (3) Expenditures from the account may be used solely for zero
36 interest loans to participants in the program and costs associated with
37 program administration by the superintendent.

1 (4) Disbursements from the account may be made only on the
2 authorization of the superintendent.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Sections 1 through 6 of this act constitute
4 a new chapter in Title 28A RCW.

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