

Senate Bill No. 47—Committee on Finance

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT making an appropriation to the Department of Education for reimbursement of certain costs of public school teachers related to acquiring certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards; requiring a teacher to repay the reimbursement to the Department under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the state general fund to the Department of Education the sum of \$20,000 for reimbursement of certain costs of public school teachers related to acquiring certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

2. If a public school teacher desires to obtain reimbursement from the Department of Education for the costs that will be incurred in acquiring certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, the teacher shall file a statement of intended certification with the school district or the governing body of the charter school by whom he is employed. The statement must be filed at least 1 year before the teacher reasonably believes that he will acquire the certification. Upon receipt of such a statement, the school district or governing body shall forward a copy of the statement to the Department of Education.

3. Upon certification, a public school teacher who has filed such a statement may request reimbursement by submitting to the school district or the governing body of the charter school by whom he is employed:

(a) A written statement indicating that the teacher understands that if he does not teach in a public school in this state, including, without limitation, a charter school, for at least 2 years after the date on which he receives the reimbursement, he will be required to repay the reimbursement to the Department of Education;

(b) Proof that he has acquired the certification; and

(c) A statement of the costs incurred by the teacher in acquiring the certification.

4. A school district or the governing body of a charter school shall verify the certification and the statement of costs submitted by a teacher pursuant to subsection 3. Upon verification, the school district or governing body shall notify the Department of Education of the certification and the amount of verified costs and shall request the Department to reimburse the teacher. Upon receipt of such a request, the Department shall cause the teacher to be reimbursed if the teacher agrees to teach in a public school in this state, including, without limitation, a charter school, for at least 2 years after the date on which he receives the reimbursement. Such a reimbursement must not exceed an amount equal to the actual verified costs

incurred by the teacher or \$2,000, whichever is less, to the extent that money is available from the appropriation made by subsection 1 for this purpose or other sources.

5. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if a teacher who receives a reimbursement pursuant to this section does not teach in a public school in this state, including, without limitation, a charter school, for at least 2 years after the date on which he received the reimbursement, the teacher shall repay the full amount of the reimbursement to the Department of Education. The teacher may request that the Department of Education grant a waiver from the repayment required by this subsection. The Department of Education may grant a waiver if the Department determines that the teacher suffers from a hardship that warrants a waiver. The Department of Education shall prescribe the procedures for the repayment required by this subsection and the procedures for a teacher to request a waiver from the repayment. The Department of Education shall use any money that it receives pursuant to this subsection to reimburse the costs of other teachers who acquire certification by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards.

6. The Department of Education shall not reimburse costs related to certification acquired by a teacher before July 1, 1999.

Sec. 2. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 of section 1 of this act must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2001, and reverts to the state general fund as soon as all payments of money committed have been made.

Sec. 3. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

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