

**Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 3, 2023**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1187

(Representatives Louser, Fegley, Hoverson, Longmuir, Mock, Novak, Thomas, VanWinkle)
(Senator Elkin)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 15.1-09-33.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the authority of a school district to pay signing bonuses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 15.1-09-33.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

15.1-09-33.1. School board authority - Payment of signing bonuses.

1. The board of a school district may offer ~~and, upon the signing of the contract by both parties,~~ pay a signing bonus to an individual who:
 - a. Is licensed ~~to teach~~ by the education standards and practices board or approved ~~to teach~~ by the education standards and practices board;
 - b. Has signed a contract of employment ~~to serve as a classroom teacher~~ in the district; and
 - c. ~~Was not~~Has never been employed as ~~a classroom teacher in the newly-assigned role~~ by the board of a school district ~~in this state during the previous school year.~~
2. The board may pay to the individual the signing bonus authorized by subsection 1 in:
 - a. One lump sum upon the individual signing a contract of employment; or
 - b. Installments over a period of time not to exceed ~~three~~five years from the date the individual signed a contract of employment.
3. A signing bonus paid under this section:
 - a. Is in addition to any amount payable under a negotiated teachers' contract; ~~;~~
 - b. May not be included in the district's negotiated salary schedule; ~~and.~~
 - c. May not be included as salary for continuing contract purposes.
 - d. May not be paid until the individual is licensed and qualified for the newly-assigned role by the education standards and practices board.
 - e. May not be used for an individual employed the prior year by another school district in the state until the individual has been employed in the district for two years.

Dennis R. Johnson
Speaker of the House

Tammy Jellen
President of the Senate

Bull J. Reek
Chief Clerk of the House

Manda Mogen
Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1187.

House Vote: Yeas 90 Nays 0 Absent 4

Senate Vote: Yeas 46 Nays 0 Absent 1

Bull J. Reek
Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at 9:43 AM. on March 15, 2023.

Approved at 7:30 PM. on March 15, 2023.

Doug Burgum
Governor

Filed in this office this 16th day of March, 2023,
at 10:50 o'clock A. M.

Michael Howe
Secretary of State