

State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-FOURTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2009

677Q0124

HOUSE BILL NO. 1186

Introduced by: Representatives Greenfield, Blake, Burg, Dennert, Elliott, Gibson, Hunhoff (Bernie), Kirschman, Krebs, Lucas, McLaughlin, Noem, Peters, Putnam, Rausch, Thompson, and Van Gerpen and Senators Merchant, Garnos, Haverly, Jerstad, Kloucek, and Maher

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to reimburse and reward public school counselors who earn
2 the credential of National Certified School Counselor.

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

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

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



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

2 (2) One thousand dollars from the school district that employs the counselor.

3 Once the first five years is complete, the school district that employs the counselor may opt
4 to continue payments during the period of the next five years. If, during that period, the school
5 district pays the counselor a stipend, the Department of Education shall also pay the counselor
6 a stipend equal to the amount offered by the school district, up to a maximum of one thousand
7 dollars. However, the department is not required to pay a teacher a stipend pursuant to this
8 section during years six to ten unless the school district employing the counselor opts to pay a
9 stipend.

10 Section 2. The Board of Education shall promulgate rules, pursuant to chapter 1-26,
11 establishing the procedures for documenting the necessary certification and for providing the
12 payments required in this Act.