

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0278

Teacher recruiting assistance.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Semlek and Senator(s)  
Schiffer

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to school districts; providing assistance  
2 to districts to adjust teacher compensation to enhance  
3 teacher recruiting efforts; delegating duties to the  
4 department of education; imposing reporting requirements;  
5 providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective  
6 date.

7

8 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

9

10 **Section 1.**

11

12 (a) Additional funding is provided to school  
13 districts under this section for purposes of assisting  
14 districts with the recruitment of teachers in special  
15 education, math and science, as well as multiple  
16 endorsement requirements of small, rural schools. The

1 legislature recognizes that the additional funding made  
2 available under this section is in excess of the cost-based  
3 levels for compensation established by the educational  
4 resource block grant model under W.S. 21-13-309 and is not  
5 intended to impose any condition upon or requirement for  
6 model reevaluation pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309(t).

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8 (b) A school district may apply to the department of  
9 education for state reimbursement assistance to supplement  
10 district operating funds dedicated to teacher compensation  
11 upon a form and in a manner prescribed by the department.  
12 The department shall pay reimbursement assistance from  
13 amounts appropriated by the legislature for this purpose  
14 under section 2 of this act and shall base grant  
15 eligibility for reimbursement assistance on the following  
16 criteria documented by the applicant district and certified  
17 in writing by the chairman of the district board of  
18 trustees:

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20 (i) Recruitment of teachers certified in math,  
21 science and special education instruction;

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23 (ii) Recruitment of teachers with endorsements  
24 in multiple subject areas;

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2 (iii) Unique recruitment problems faced by  
3 small, rural and isolated schools within districts.

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5 (c) Amounts received by school districts pursuant to  
6 this section shall be expended only for enhancing teacher  
7 compensation as a component of district recruiting efforts  
8 targeting teachers certified in subject areas or  
9 representing qualifications specified under subsection (b)  
10 of this section and shall not be expended to enhance  
11 compensation in a manner which would escalate in-state  
12 district competition for teachers. The department shall  
13 establish a process enabling distribution of amounts under  
14 this section in sufficient time to benefit district efforts  
15 to recruit teachers for the 2005-2006 school year. Amounts  
16 received under this section shall be applied to recruitment  
17 of teachers for the 2005-2006 school year and any  
18 compensation adjustment paid under this section shall not  
19 be included in the special education adjustment to the  
20 education resource block grant model under W.S. 21-13-321  
21 for corresponding compensation adjustments paid during  
22 school year 2005-2006 and reported for reimbursement in the  
23 subsequent school year. On or before September 1, 2005,  
24 school districts shall report actual or budgeted

1 expenditures of assistance distributed under this section  
2 to the department of education in a form and manner  
3 specified by the department, clearly specifying salary  
4 levels adjusted under this section and impacts of  
5 adjustments on teacher recruiting efforts for school year  
6 2005-2006. Upon receipt, the department shall immediately  
7 compile district reports and submit the compilation to  
8 members of the management council, joint education interim  
9 committee and the joint appropriations interim committee.

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11 (d) As soon as reasonably possible following the  
12 effective date of this act, the department of education  
13 shall notify school districts of the availability of  
14 reimbursement assistance under this section and of the  
15 requirements imposed upon districts to obtain assistance.

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17 **Section 2.** For the period commencing April 15, 2005,  
18 and ending June 30, 2006, four hundred thousand dollars  
19 (\$400,000.00) is appropriated from amounts within the  
20 school foundation program account to the department of  
21 education for purposes of section 1 of this act.

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1           **Section 3.** This act is effective immediately upon  
2 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law  
3 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
4 Constitution.

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(END)