

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0144

Speech pathologists-national certification.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Meyer, Craft, Davison,  
Gilmore and Iekel and Senator(s) Decaria

## A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to education, providing reimbursement for  
2 speech pathologists who obtain national certification; and  
3 providing for an effective date.

4

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

6

7 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-7-501(a)(intro), (ii), (b), (c),  
8 (f)(intro), (i), (ii), (iii) and by creating a new  
9 paragraph (g) is amended to read:

10

11 **21-7-501. National certification incentive;**  
12 **certification fee reimbursement; consultants and mentors;**  
13 **certified teacher pay incentive reimbursement.**

14

15 (a) The professional teaching standards board in  
16 cooperation with the state board of examiners of speech

1 pathology and audiology shall by rule establish a program  
2 under which school districts shall reimburse no more than  
3 fifty (50) teachers, speech pathologists and certified or  
4 licensed service providers employed by Wyoming school  
5 districts the actual cost of receiving national  
6 certification, not to exceed the national certification fee  
7 established by the ~~national board for professional teaching~~  
8 ~~standards~~ entity which issues the certification for the  
9 applicable year certification was received, provided:

10

11 (ii) The teacher, speech pathologist or service  
12 provider, as applicable, was successful in receiving his  
13 national certification; and

14

15 (b) Upon verification by the professional teaching  
16 standards board that national certification is complete,  
17 the district which employs the teacher, speech pathologist  
18 or service provider shall subject to the limit imposed  
19 under subsection (a) of this section, reimburse the  
20 teacher, speech pathologist or service provider for the  
21 actual cost of the national certification fee.

22

23 (c) A school district may apply for an innovative  
24 program grant under W.S. 21-22-106(a)(iii) to recover

1 amounts reimbursed to teachers, speech pathologists and  
2 service providers under subsection (b) of this section.

3  
4 (f) In addition to reimbursement of the cost of  
5 national board certification under subsection (b) of this  
6 section, and to promote employment of ~~national board~~  
7 ~~certified~~ teachers and speech pathologists who have  
8 obtained national certification by school districts, each  
9 district employing a ~~national board certified~~ teacher or  
10 speech pathologist who has obtained national certification  
11 shall be reimbursed for payments to these teachers and  
12 speech pathologists subject to the following:

13  
14 (i) For each year the certificate is valid, the  
15 district provides each teacher and speech pathologist  
16 employed by the district and holding certification by the  
17 national board for professional teaching standards or the  
18 American Speech and Hearing Association a lump sum payment  
19 of four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) which is in addition  
20 to the teacher's or speech pathologist's annual salary as  
21 determined by the board, and which is paid to each  
22 certified teacher or speech pathologist between December 1  
23 and December 31 of the school year for which application is  
24 made under paragraph (ii) of this subsection;

1

2 (ii) ~~Effective school year 2007-2008 and each~~  
3 ~~school year thereafter,~~ The teacher or speech pathologist  
4 holding certification shall be employed by the district  
5 full-time as a teacher or speech pathologist for that  
6 school year in which application is made;

7

8 (iii) The district submits a report to the  
9 department of education in a manner, on a form and at times  
10 specified by department rule and regulation, documenting  
11 the number of national board certified teachers and speech  
12 pathologists employed by the district, verifying payments  
13 to such teachers in accordance with paragraph (i) of this  
14 subsection;

15

16 (g) As used in this section "national certification"  
17 includes both teachers receiving national board  
18 certification and speech pathologists issued a certificate  
19 of clinical competence by the American Speech and Hearing  
20 Association.

21

22 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2008.

23

24

(END)