

**First Regular Session
Sixty-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

ENGROSSED

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted
on Second Reading in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 01-0611.01 Jeff Conway

SENATE BILL 01-105

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Hanna

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

(None)

Senate Committees

Education
Appropriations

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING REIMBURSEMENT OF THE COSTS INCURRED BY LICENSED**
102 **EDUCATORS IN OBTAINING NATIONAL CREDENTIALING, AND**
103 **MAKING AN APPROPRIATION IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not necessarily reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted.)

Reimburses a Colorado educator employed at a Colorado public school for the costs incurred in obtaining a national professional credential as a requirement for or in the course of obtaining a provisional or professional educator license or a master educator certification. Requires said educator to have worked at least one year in Colorado since obtaining the credential. Sets the amount of the reimbursement at the lesser of actual tuition costs incurred or \$1,500. Specifies items an

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

SENATE
Amended 2nd Reading
March 28, 2001

educator must present to receive reimbursement.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 SECTION 1. Part 1 of article 60.5 of title 22, Colorado Revised
3 Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to read:

4 22-60.5-112.5. Reimbursement for obtaining a national
5 credential. (1) THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL REIMBURSE ANY
6 PERSON WHO, WHILE EMPLOYED AS AN EDUCATOR AT A PUBLIC SCHOOL IN
7 THIS STATE, OBTAINS A NATIONAL CREDENTIAL FROM AN APPROVED
8 PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2001, AS A
9 REQUIREMENT FOR OR IN THE COURSE OF OBTAINING A MASTER EDUCATOR
10 CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE. THE AMOUNT OF
11 REIMBURSEMENT SHALL REFLECT THE ACTUAL COST OF FEES PAID BY THE
12 PERSON TO OBTAIN THE NATIONAL CREDENTIAL; EXCEPT THAT THE TOTAL
13 AMOUNT OF REIMBURSEMENT TO ANY PERSON SHALL NOT EXCEED ONE
14 THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS.

15 (2) (a) TO OBTAIN REIMBURSEMENT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, A
16 PERSON SHALL PRESENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION THE
17 FOLLOWING ITEMS:

18 (I) PROOF THAT THE PERSON HAS OBTAINED THE NATIONAL
19 CREDENTIAL;

20 (II) PROOF OF THE ACTUAL COST OF FEES PAID BY THE PERSON
21 SEEKING REIMBURSEMENT TO OBTAIN THE NATIONAL CREDENTIAL;

22 (III) PROOF THAT THE PERSON IS EMPLOYED AS AN EDUCATOR AT A
23 PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE STATE AT THE TIME OF APPLYING FOR
24 REIMBURSEMENT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION;

25 (IV) PROOF THAT THE PERSON HAS BEEN EMPLOYED FOR AT LEAST

1 ONE YEAR AS AN EDUCATOR AT A PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE STATE SINCE
2 OBTAINING SUCH NATIONAL CREDENTIAL;

3 (V) PROOF THAT THE PERSON HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY PREVIOUS
4 REIMBURSEMENTS TO THE PERSON MADE BY ANY NATIONAL, STATE, OR
5 LOCAL PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ENTITY; AND

6 (VI) PROOF OF ENDORSEMENT BY THE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IN
7 WHICH THE PERSON IS EMPLOYED.

8 (b) FOLLOWING THE RECEIPT OF THE ITEMS SPECIFIED IN
9 PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (2), THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
10 SHALL REIMBURSE THE PERSON APPLYING FOR REIMBURSEMENT IN THE
11 AMOUNT SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.

12 (3) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE
13 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FROM THE EDUCATOR LICENSURE CASH FUND
14 CREATED IN SECTION 22-60.5-112 SUCH MONEYS AS ARE NECESSARY FOR
15 THE ADMINISTRATION OF THIS SECTION.

16 (4) AS USED IN THIS SECTION:

17 (a) "APPROVED PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION" MEANS A
18 NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALING ORGANIZATION
19 THAT IS APPROVED BY RULE OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

20 (b) "NATIONAL CREDENTIAL" MEANS A CERTIFICATION OR OTHER
21 FORM OF REGISTRATION OR CREDENTIAL ISSUED BY A NATIONALLY
22 RECOGNIZED PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALING ORGANIZATION. SUCH
23 NATIONAL CREDENTIAL SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NEED NOT BE LIMITED TO,
24 CERTIFICATION BY THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING
25 STANDARDS.

26 **SECTION 2. Appropriation.** In addition to any other
27 appropriation, there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the

1 educator licensure cash fund created in section 22-60.5-112, Colorado
2 Revised Statutes, to the department of education, for the fiscal year
3 beginning July 1, 2001, the sum of thirty-four thousand two hundred fifty
4 dollars (\$34,250), or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the
5 implementation of this act.

6 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
7 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
8 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.