

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

H.B. 474
Mar 31, 2021
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40286-MTa-91

Short Title: DRIVE to Excellence in Teaching.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Ball.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO FUND NATIONAL BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS
CERTIFICATION FOR UP TO FIVE HUNDRED TEACHERS OVER THE 2021-2023
FISCAL BIENNIUM.

Whereas, the Developing a Representative and Inclusive Vision for Education
(DRIVE) Task Force has recommended strategies and steps that the State needs to take to
diversify the teacher workforce and ultimately improve outcomes of all students; and

Whereas, turnover rates among teachers who have National Board for Professional
Teaching Standards certification are lower than turnover rates among other teachers; and

Whereas, a diverse teacher workforce is academically and behaviorally beneficial to
all students, especially students of color; and

Whereas, teachers of color comprise seven percent (7%) of the number of teachers
with National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification in North Carolina and
twenty-one percent (21%) of the total number of public school teachers; Now, therefore,
The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1.(a) There is appropriated from the General Fund to the State Education
Assistance Authority the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) in nonrecurring funds
for each year of the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium to provide grants to a total of up to 500 licensed
personnel of the public schools who are classified as teachers for the full participation fee for
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certification, as follows:

- (1) The Authority shall distribute the grants in each year of the 2021-2023 fiscal
biennium to teachers who meet the minimum requirements to receive State
financial assistance for the NBPTS participation fee under G.S. 115C-296.2.
- (2) Grants shall be provided on a first-come, first-served basis, according to a
procedure developed by the Authority, beginning no later than September 1
of each year of the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium.
- (3) Teachers receiving grants shall also receive up to three days of approved paid
leave in accordance with G.S. 115C-296.2.
- (4) A teacher who receives a grant shall have no obligation to repay the grant to
the State even in the event that the teacher does not receive NBPTS
certification.

SECTION 1.(b) Of the funds appropriated to the State Education Assistance
Authority pursuant to this act, the Authority may retain up to twenty-five thousand dollars
(\$25,000) in each year of the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium for administrative costs associated with
the distribution of grants for the NBPTS participation fee, as provided in this act.

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 2021.



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