

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0167

Wyoming teacher shortage loan repayment program.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Henderson, Berger, Brown,
Niemiec, Northrup, Zwonitzer, Dn and
Zwonitzer, Dv and Senator(s) Baldwin,
Brennan, Pappas and Schuler

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to education; reauthorizing the Wyoming
2 teacher shortage loan repayment program; modifying
3 eligibility requirements; making conforming amendments;
4 appropriating funds; repealing a provision; and providing
5 for an effective date.

6

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

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-7-601(b)(i)(A), (B), (e), (n) and
10 (p)(intro) is amended to read:

11

12 **21-7-601. Wyoming teacher shortage loan repayment**
13 **program; eligibility criteria; procedures; program**
14 **reporting.**

1

2 (b) To qualify for a loan under this section, the
3 applicant shall first:

4

5 (i) Be enrolled in good standing in a teacher
6 education program at the University of Wyoming leading to:

7

8 (A) Certification as a ~~special education,~~
9 ~~math, science or world language~~ teacher; or

10

11 (B) Eligibility for an additional
12 endorsement. ~~to teach reading or English as a second~~
13 ~~language.~~

14

15 (e) A recipient of a loan under this section may
16 repay the loan without cash payment by teaching at least
17 fifty percent (50%) of his working hours ~~as a teacher in~~
18 ~~special education, math, science, world language, reading~~
19 ~~or English as a second language~~ as a certified teacher in a
20 Wyoming public school as provided in subsection (f) of this
21 section. To qualify as repayment under this subsection,
22 work shall be performed within the minimum amount of time
23 necessary to repay the loan, plus two (2) years, which

1 shall begin with the calendar month following the month in
2 which the student completed the academic program.

3

4 (n) The community college commission shall annually
5 review the loan program established under this section and
6 report to the governor and the legislature in accordance
7 with W.S. 9-2-1014, regarding program results, funds
8 received and loans issued during the preceding academic
9 year, together with the status of all outstanding loan
10 commitments and repayments under the program. The report
11 required under this subsection shall include information
12 submitted by the professional teaching standards board
13 regarding the impact of the program on ~~identified~~-teacher
14 ~~shortage~~—~~areas~~—shortages and recommendations for
15 modifications to the program, including funding levels, to
16 address ~~other identified~~-teacher shortage in targeted
17 areas.

18

19 (p) Notwithstanding ~~subsection (o)~~—any other
20 provision of ~~this section~~—the law:

21

22 **Section 2.** W.S. 21-7-601(o) is repealed.

23

1 **Section 3.**

2

3 (a) There is appropriated five hundred thousand
4 dollars (\$500,000.00) from the legislative stabilization
5 reserve account to the Wyoming community college commission
6 for the period beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30,
7 2024. This appropriation shall be used for the loan
8 program established by W.S. 21-7-601, as amended by this
9 act, and as authorized by subsection (b) of this section.
10 This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for
11 any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds
12 remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided
13 by law on June 30, 2024. It is the intent of the
14 legislature that this appropriation be included in the
15 standard budget for the commission for the immediately
16 succeeding fiscal biennium.

17

18 (b) Not more than five percent (5%) of the amount
19 appropriated under this section shall be used by the
20 Wyoming community college commission for the administration
21 of this program, including expenses of the commission and
22 loan administration fees.

23

1 **Section 4.** 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.

5

6

(END)