

Introduced by

Senators Rust, Bekkedahl

Representatives B. Anderson, Hatlestad, Richter, Zubke

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact section 15.1-36-08.1 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to a rapid enrollment school construction grant program; to provide an appropriation;  
3 and to provide for a transfer.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 15.1-36-08.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and  
6 enacted as follows:

7 **Rapid enrollment school construction grant fund - Bank of North Dakota - School**  
8 **construction projects.**

- 9 1. The rapid enrollment school construction grant fund is a special fund in the state  
10 treasury administered by the Bank of North Dakota.
- 11 2. Moneys in the fund may be spent pursuant to legislative appropriations providing  
12 grants to eligible school districts for school construction projects in accordance with  
13 this section.
- 14 3. The Bank of North Dakota shall award grants from the fund to eligible school districts  
15 based on the order in which the applications are received.
- 16 4. A school district is eligible to receive a grant from the fund if:
- 17 a. The number of students in September tenth enrollment data reported to the  
18 superintendent of public instruction has increased by an average of at least one  
19 hundred twenty-five students per year for the most recent five years;
- 20 b. The board of the school district is levying a minimum of sixty mills for general  
21 fund purposes or the maximum number of mills allowed for general fund  
22 purposes under section 57-15-14.2; and
- 23 c. Before applying for a grant under this section, the board of the school district has  
24 obligated local funding for school construction purposes in an amount equal to

1                   thirty mills, including mill levies for building fund and sinking and interest fund  
2                   purposes and other revenue sources.

3        5. The grant funding may be used only for the expenses related to the construction and  
4        renovation of school district buildings.

5        6. A grant to an eligible school district may not exceed the lesser of fifty percent of the  
6        cost of the construction project as approved by a majority of the eligible voters of the  
7        school district or fifteen million dollars.

8        7. A school district may receive only one grant every five years.

9        **SECTION 2. TRANSFER - FOUNDATION AID STABILIZATION FUND TO RAPID**

10   **ENROLLMENT SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION GRANT FUND.** The office of management and  
11 budget shall transfer the sum of \$75,000,000 from the strategic investment and improvements  
12 fund to the rapid enrollment school construction grant fund during the biennium beginning  
13 July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021.

14        **SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the rapid  
15 enrollment school construction grant fund, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$75,000,000,  
16 or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the Bank of North Dakota, for the purpose of  
17 providing rapid enrollment grants to eligible school districts in accordance with section 1 of this  
18 Act, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021.