

House File 215

H-1029

1 Amend House File 215 as follows:

2 1. By striking page 4, line 12, through page 6,  
3 line 1.

4 2. Page 6, before line 2 by inserting:

5 <Sec. \_\_\_\_\_. Section 261.112, Code 2013, is amended  
6 to read as follows:

7 **261.112 Teacher shortage loan forgiveness program.**

8 1. A teacher shortage loan forgiveness program is  
9 established to provide loan forgiveness to eligible  
10 teachers. The program shall be administered by the  
11 commission. A teacher is eligible for the program if  
12 the teacher is practicing in Iowa in a teacher shortage  
13 high-demand area as designated by the department of  
14 education pursuant to subsection 2.

15 2. For purposes of this section, "teacher":

16 a. "Department" means the department of education.

17 b. "High-demand area" includes but is not limited  
18 to the fields of science, technology, engineering,  
19 mathematics, special education, English as a second  
20 language instruction, and other high-demand areas  
21 identified by the department.

22 c. "Teacher" means an individual holding a  
23 practitioner's license issued under chapter 272,  
24 who is employed in a nonadministrative position in  
25 a designated shortage high-demand area by a school  
26 district or area education agency pursuant to a  
27 contract issued by a board of directors under section  
28 279.13.

29 ~~2.~~ 3. The director of the department of education  
30 shall annually designate the geographic or subject  
31 areas experiencing teacher shortages. The director  
32 shall periodically conduct a survey of school  
33 districts, accredited nonpublic schools, and approved  
34 practitioner preparation programs to determine current  
35 shortage high-demand areas. Based on the results of  
36 the survey and any other criteria established by the  
37 department, the director shall annually designate  
38 high-demand areas for the purposes of this section and  
39 notify the commission of the areas designated.

40 ~~3.~~ 4. Each applicant for loan forgiveness shall,  
41 in accordance with the rules of the commission, do the  
42 following:

43 a. Complete and file an application for teacher  
44 shortage loan forgiveness. The individual shall  
45 be responsible for the prompt submission of any  
46 information required by the commission.

47 b. File a new application and submit information  
48 as required by the commission annually on the basis of  
49 which the applicant's eligibility for the renewed loan  
50 forgiveness will be evaluated and determined.

1 c. Complete and return on a form approved by the  
2 commission an affidavit of practice verifying that the  
3 applicant is a teacher in an ~~eligible teacher shortage~~  
4 a high-demand area.

5 5. The commission shall give priority to eligible  
6 applicants who graduated from an Iowa high school.

7 ~~4. 6. The annual amount of teacher an eligible~~  
8 ~~teacher's shortage loan forgiveness shall not exceed~~  
9 ~~the resident tuition rate established for institutions~~  
10 ~~of higher learning governed by the state board of~~  
11 ~~regents for the first year following the teacher's~~  
12 ~~graduation from an approved practitioner preparation~~  
13 ~~program, or twenty percent of the teacher's total~~  
14 ~~federally guaranteed Stafford loan amount under the~~  
15 ~~federal family education loan program or the federal~~  
16 ~~direct loan program, including principal and interest,~~  
17 ~~whichever amount is less. A teacher shall be eligible~~  
18 ~~for the loan forgiveness program for not more than five~~  
19 ~~years. However, practice by an eligible teacher in a~~  
20 ~~teacher shortage area pursuant to subsection 1 must be~~  
21 ~~completed within ten years following graduation from~~  
22 ~~the approved practitioner preparation program.~~

23 7. Each year, prior to signing agreements with  
24 eligible applicants for the program, the commission  
25 shall encumber funding necessary to fulfill remaining  
26 obligations to teachers previously awarded loan  
27 forgiveness under the program. The commission shall  
28 establish criteria for awarding loan forgiveness if  
29 awards for all new eligible applicants cannot be funded  
30 after fulfilling such remaining obligations.

31 8. A teacher receiving loan forgiveness under the  
32 program shall notify the commission of the teacher's  
33 employment status within thirty days following  
34 termination of the teacher's employment as a teacher  
35 practicing in a high-demand area, unless the teacher  
36 is pursuing the procedures provided by sections 279.15  
37 through 279.18.

38 ~~5. 9. A teacher shortage loan forgiveness~~  
39 ~~repayment fund is created in the state treasury for~~  
40 ~~deposit of moneys appropriated to or received by the~~  
41 ~~commission for use under the program. Notwithstanding~~  
42 ~~section 8.33, moneys deposited in the fund shall not~~  
43 ~~revert to any fund of the state at the end of any~~  
44 ~~fiscal year but shall remain in the loan forgiveness~~  
45 ~~repayment fund and be continuously available for loan~~  
46 ~~forgiveness under the program. Notwithstanding section~~  
47 ~~12C.7, subsection 2, interest or earnings on moneys~~  
48 ~~deposited in the fund shall be credited to the fund.~~

49 ~~6. 10. The commission shall submit in a report to~~  
50 ~~the general assembly by January 1, annually, the number~~

1 of individuals who received loan forgiveness pursuant  
2 to this section, which ~~shortage~~ high-demand areas the  
3 teachers taught in, the amount paid to each program  
4 participant, and other information identified by the  
5 commission as indicators of outcomes from the program.

6 ~~7.~~ 11. The commission shall adopt rules pursuant  
7 to chapter 17A to administer this section.>

8 3. Page 6, by striking lines 19 and 20 and  
9 inserting <aid commission for deposit in the teacher  
10 shortage loan forgiveness repayment fund created by  
11 section 261.112, subsection 9.>

12 4. Page 7, by striking lines 10 and 11 and  
13 inserting <aid commission for deposit in the teacher  
14 shortage loan forgiveness repayment fund created by  
15 section 261.112, subsection 9.>

16 5. Page 7, by striking lines 19 through 32.

17 6. By renumbering as necessary.

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WINCKLER of Scott