



Sen. Bill Cunningham

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09900SB2975sam001

LRB099 20370 MLM 47552 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 2975

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend Senate Bill 2975 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section  
5 2-3.80b as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.80b new)

7 Sec. 2-3.80b. Agriculture education teacher grant program.

8 (a) As used in this Section:

9 "New agriculture education program" means an agriculture  
10 education program approved by the State Board of Education in a  
11 school district that has not had an agriculture education  
12 program for a period of 10 years or more prior to the date of  
13 application for a grant under this Section.

14 "Personal services cost" means the cost of a teacher  
15 providing 60 additional days, which shall mean 400 additional  
16 hours, outside the teacher's regularly scheduled teaching

1 duties for the benefit of agriculture education. The 400  
2 additional hours shall be any activity that is to the benefit  
3 of agriculture education, as defined by the State Board of  
4 Education by rule, regardless of the time of year the activity  
5 occurs.

6 (b) Subject to appropriation to the State Board of  
7 Education, there is created an agriculture education teacher  
8 grant program to fund personal services costs for agriculture  
9 education teachers in school districts. The grants shall be for  
10 the purpose of assisting school districts with paying for  
11 personal services costs of agriculture education teachers.

12 (c) A school district may apply for a grant to fund an  
13 amount not to exceed 50% of the personal services cost for an  
14 agriculture education teacher under this Section. However, a  
15 school district that is creating a new agriculture education  
16 program may apply for a grant to fund an amount not to exceed  
17 100% of an agriculture teacher's personal services cost in the  
18 first and second year of the new agriculture education program  
19 and an amount not to exceed 80% of an agriculture teacher's  
20 personal services cost in the third and fourth years of the new  
21 agriculture education program. A school district may apply for  
22 a grant for more than one teacher under this Section.

23 (d) A school district that applies for a grant under this  
24 Section or offers any extended contract for agriculture  
25 education shall base its personal services costs on the  
26 reasonably expected personal services cost for the teacher

1 based on the cost of the teacher's regularly scheduled teaching  
2 duties.

3 (e) The State Board of Education shall create a statewide  
4 system for an agriculture education teacher to track his or her  
5 additional hours completed pursuant to a grant under this  
6 Section.

7 (f) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules as  
8 necessary to implement this Section.

9 Section 10. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act is  
10 amended by changing Section 65.25 as follows:

11 (110 ILCS 947/65.25)

12 Sec. 65.25. Teacher shortage scholarships.

13 (a) The Commission may annually award a number of  
14 scholarships to persons preparing to teach in areas of  
15 identified staff shortages. Such scholarships shall be issued  
16 to individuals who make application to the Commission and who  
17 agree to take courses at qualified institutions of higher  
18 learning which will prepare them to teach in areas of  
19 identified staff shortages.

20 (b) Scholarships awarded under this Section shall be issued  
21 pursuant to regulations promulgated by the Commission;  
22 provided that no rule or regulation promulgated by the State  
23 Board of Education prior to the effective date of this  
24 amendatory Act of 1993 pursuant to the exercise of any right,

1 power, duty, responsibility or matter of pending business  
2 transferred from the State Board of Education to the Commission  
3 under this Section shall be affected thereby, and all such  
4 rules and regulations shall become the rules and regulations of  
5 the Commission until modified or changed by the Commission in  
6 accordance with law. The Commission shall allocate the  
7 scholarships awarded between persons initially preparing to  
8 teach, persons holding valid teaching certificates issued  
9 under Articles 21 and 34 of the School Code, and persons  
10 holding a bachelor's degree from any accredited college or  
11 university who have been employed for a minimum of 10 years in  
12 a field other than teaching.

13 (c) Each scholarship shall be utilized by its holder for  
14 the payment of tuition and non-revenue bond fees at any  
15 qualified institution of higher learning. Such tuition and fees  
16 shall be available only for courses that will enable the  
17 individual to be certified to teach in areas of identified  
18 staff shortages. The Commission shall determine which courses  
19 are eligible for tuition payments under this Section.

20 (d) The Commission may make tuition payments directly to  
21 the qualified institution of higher learning which the  
22 individual attends for the courses prescribed or may make  
23 payments to the teacher. Any teacher who received payments and  
24 who fails to enroll in the courses prescribed shall refund the  
25 payments to the Commission.

26 (e) Following the completion of the program of study,

1 persons who held valid teaching certificates and persons  
2 holding a bachelor's degree from any accredited college or  
3 university who have been employed for a minimum of 10 years in  
4 a field other than teaching prior to receiving a teacher  
5 shortage scholarship must accept employment within 2 years in a  
6 school in Illinois within 60 miles of the person's residence to  
7 teach in an area of identified staff shortage for a period of  
8 at least 3 years; provided, however that any such person  
9 instead may elect to accept employment within such 2 year  
10 period to teach in an area of identified staff shortage for a  
11 period of at least 3 years in a school in Illinois which is  
12 more than 60 miles from such person's residence. Persons  
13 initially preparing to teach prior to receiving a teacher  
14 shortage scholarship must accept employment within 2 years in a  
15 school in Illinois to teach in an area of identified staff  
16 shortage for a period of at least 3 years. Individuals who fail  
17 to comply with this provision shall refund all of the  
18 scholarships awarded to the Commission, whether payments were  
19 made directly to the institutions of higher learning or to the  
20 individuals, and this condition shall be agreed to in writing  
21 by all scholarship recipients at the time the scholarship is  
22 awarded. No individual shall be required to refund tuition  
23 payments if his or her failure to obtain employment as a  
24 teacher in a school is the result of financial conditions  
25 within school districts. The rules and regulations promulgated  
26 as provided in this Section shall contain provisions regarding

1 the waiving and deferral of such payments.

2 (f) The Commission, with the cooperation of the State Board  
3 of Education, shall assist individuals who have participated in  
4 the scholarship program established by this Section in finding  
5 employment in areas of identified staff shortages.

6 (g) Beginning in September, 1994 and annually thereafter,  
7 the Commission, using data annually supplied by the State Board  
8 of Education under procedures developed by it to measure the  
9 level of shortage of qualified bilingual personnel serving  
10 students with disabilities, shall annually publish (i) the  
11 level of shortage of qualified bilingual personnel serving  
12 students with disabilities, and (ii) allocations of  
13 scholarships for personnel preparation training programs in  
14 the areas of bilingual special education teacher training and  
15 bilingual school service personnel.

16 (h) Appropriations for the scholarships outlined in this  
17 Section shall be made to the Commission from funds appropriated  
18 by the General Assembly.

19 (i) This Section is substantially the same as Section 30-4c  
20 of the School Code, which Section is repealed by this  
21 amendatory Act of 1993, and shall be construed as a  
22 continuation of the teacher shortage scholarship program  
23 established under that prior law, and not as a new or different  
24 teacher shortage scholarship program. The State Board of  
25 Education shall transfer to the Commission, as the successor to  
26 the State Board of Education for all purposes of administering

1 and implementing the provisions of this Section, all books,  
2 accounts, records, papers, documents, contracts, agreements,  
3 and pending business in any way relating to the teacher  
4 shortage scholarship program continued under this Section; and  
5 all scholarships at any time awarded under that program by, and  
6 all applications for any such scholarships at any time made to,  
7 the State Board of Education shall be unaffected by the  
8 transfer to the Commission of all responsibility for the  
9 administration and implementation of the teacher shortage  
10 scholarship program continued under this Section. The State  
11 Board of Education shall furnish to the Commission such other  
12 information as the Commission may request to assist it in  
13 administering this Section.

14 (j) For the purposes of this Section:

15 "Qualified institution of higher learning" means the  
16 University of Illinois, Southern Illinois University, Chicago  
17 State University, Eastern Illinois University, Governors State  
18 University, Illinois State University, Northeastern Illinois  
19 University, Northern Illinois University, Western Illinois  
20 University, the public community colleges subject to the Public  
21 Community College Act and any Illinois privately operated  
22 college, community college or university offering degrees and  
23 instructional programs above the high school level either in  
24 residence or by correspondence. The Board of Higher Education  
25 and the Commission, in consultation with the State Board of  
26 Education, shall identify qualified institutions to supply the

1 demand for bilingual special education teachers and bilingual  
2 school service personnel.

3 "Areas of identified staff shortages" means courses of  
4 study, including, but not limited to, agricultural education,  
5 in which the number of teachers is insufficient to meet student  
6 or school district demand for such instruction as determined by  
7 the State Board of Education.

8 (Source: P.A. 88-228; 89-4, eff. 1-1-96.)".