{deleted text} shows text that was in HB0287S01 but was deleted in HB0287S02.

inserted text shows text that was not in HB0287S01 but was inserted into HB0287S02.

DISCLAIMER: This document is provided to assist you in your comparison of the two bills. Sometimes this automated comparison will NOT be completely accurate. Therefore, you need to read the actual bills. This automatically generated document could contain inaccuracies caused by: limitations of the compare program; bad input data; or other causes.

Representative Carol S. Moss proposes the following substitute bill:

#### ADVANCED DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP PILOT PROGRAM

2024 GENERAL SESSION STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Carol S. Moss** 

Senate	Sponsor:			

#### **LONG TITLE**

#### **General Description:**

This bill enacts an advanced degree scholarship pilot program.

#### **Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- defines terms;
- enacts a five-year advanced degree scholarship pilot program for educators who pursue advanced degrees in education;
- grants the State Board of Education rulemaking authority to create and administer the pilot program;
- provides for the use of the Public Education Economic Stabilization Account to fund the pilot program; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

## Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2025:

- ► to State Board of Education Educator Licensing <u>- Educator Licensing</u> as a one-time appropriation:
  - from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account,
     One-time, \$20,000,000

## **Other Special Clauses:**

This bill provides a special effective date.

#### **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**53F-9-204**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapters 386, 456

**ENACTS:** 

**53F-5-222**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:* 

Section 1. Section **53F-5-222** is enacted to read:

## 53F-5-222. Advanced Degree Scholarship Pilot Program.

- (1) As used in this section:
- (a) "Advanced degree" means a master or doctoral level degree.
- (b) "Eligible educator" means an educator as the term is defined in Section 53E-6-102.
- (c) "Program" means the Advanced Degree Scholarship Pilot Program created in Subsection (2).
- (2) There is established a five-year pilot program known as the the Advanced Degree Scholarship Pilot Program to provide financial assistance to educators for the pursuit of advanced degrees.
- (3) Subject to Section 53F-9-204, the state board shall award a scholarship to an eligible educator who:
  - (a) pursues an advanced degree in education;
  - (b) submits an application to the state board;
- (c) submits a letter of recommendation from the principal of the qualified applicant's school;

- (d) subject to Subsection (4), is enrolled in an advanced degree program from:
- (i) an institution of higher education within the state system of higher education described in Section 53B-1-102; or
- (ii) a private, non-profit institution of higher education in the state that is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities; and
- (e) will complete the advanced degree program no later than three years from the day on which the advanced degree program begins.
- (4) For purposes of Subsection (3)(d), the state board shall determine the advanced degrees that qualify for a scholarship award.
- (5) The state board shall determine the amount of the scholarship award, ensuring that the amount does not exceed the combined costs of tuition, fees, and required textbooks.
- (6) The state board shall make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to:
  - (a) create a scholarship application process and appeal process for the program;
  - (b) establish criteria for awarding a scholarship;
- (c) require a scholarship recipient to use the scholarship award exclusively for the purposes of pursuing an advanced degree described in this section; and
- (d) establish policies and procedures for cancellation or repayment of scholarship awards if the scholarship recipient fails to meet the requirements under this section.
- (7) If an appropriation under this section is insufficient to cover the costs associated with the program, the state board may:
  - (a) reduce the amount of the scholarship award; and
- (b) distribute scholarship awards on a pro rata basis to all eligible educators who submitted a completed application before the application deadline.
  - Section 2. Section **53F-9-204** is amended to read:

#### 53F-9-204. Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account.

- (1) There is created within the Uniform School Fund a restricted account known as the "Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account."
- (2) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), the account shall be funded from the following revenue sources:
  - (i) 15% of the difference between, as determined by the Office of the Legislative Fiscal

## Analyst:

- (A) the estimated amount of ongoing Income Tax Fund and Uniform School Fund revenue available for the Legislature to appropriate for the next fiscal year; and
- (B) the amount of ongoing appropriations from the Income Tax Fund and Uniform School Fund in the current fiscal year; and
  - (ii) other appropriations as the Legislature may designate.
- (b) If the appropriation described in Subsection (2)(a) would cause the ongoing appropriations to the account to exceed 11% of Uniform School Fund appropriations described in Section 53F-9-201.1 for the same fiscal year, the Legislature shall appropriate only those funds necessary to ensure that the ongoing appropriations to the account equal 11% of Uniform School Fund appropriations for that fiscal year.
- (3) Subject to the availability of ongoing appropriations to the account, in accordance with:
- Lutah Constitution, Article X, Section 5, Subsection (4), the ongoing appropriation to the account shall be used to fund:
- (a) except for a year described in Subsection (3)(b), one-time appropriations to the public education system; and
- (b) the Minimum School Program for a year in which Income Tax Fund revenue and Uniform School Fund revenue are insufficient to fund:
  - (i) ongoing appropriations to the public education system; and
  - (ii) enrollment growth and inflation estimates, as defined in Section 53F-9-201.1.
  - (4) (a) The account shall earn interest.
  - (b) All interest earned on account money shall be deposited in the account.
- (5) On or before December 31, 2023, and every three years thereafter, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall:
  - (a) review the percentages described in Subsections (2)(a)(i) and (2)(b); and
- (b) recommend to the Executive Appropriations Subcommittee any changes based on the review described in Subsection (5)(a).
- (6) In preparing budget bills for a given fiscal year, the Executive Appropriations Committee shall make the one-time appropriations described in Subsection (3)(a) by appropriating at least the lesser of 10% of the total amount of the one-time appropriations or:

- (a) the cost of providing 32 paid professional hours for teachers in accordance with Section 53F-7-203[-]; or
- (b) the cost of pursuing an advanced degree or certification for educators in accordance with Section 53F-5-222.

Section 3. FY 2025 Appropriation.

The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for fiscal year 2025.

Subsection 3(a). **Expendable Funds and Accounts.** 

The Legislature has reviewed the following expendable funds. The Operating and Capital Budgets.

<u>Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, the</u>

Legislature {authorizes the State Division of Finance to transfer amounts between funds and accounts as indicated. Outlays and expenditures} appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts {to which the money is transferred may be made without further legislative action, in accordance with statutory provisions relating to the funds or accounts} indicated for the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.

ITEM 1 To State Board of Education - Educator Licensing

From Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted

\$20,000,000

Account, One-time

Schedule of Programs:

**Educator Licensing** 

\$20,000,000

The Legislature intends the state board to use the funds appropriated for the Advanced Degree Scholarship Pilot Program at \$4,000,000 each year of the five-year pilot program.

Section 4. Effective date.

This bill takes effect on July 1, 2024.