

1 AN ACT concerning teachers.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Sections
5 2-3.131 and 2-3.132 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.131 new)

7 Sec. 2-3.131. Teacher signing bonus. Subject to
8 appropriation, the State Board of Education shall establish
9 and administer a program to provide signing bonuses to
10 teachers who contract with the State Board of Education to
11 teach in a public school, for a minimum of 5 consecutive
12 school years, in a school district that has a shortage of
13 teachers or in a subject area that has a shortage of
14 teachers. The State Board of Education shall determine the
15 amount of the bonus. A teacher who receives a signing bonus
16 under this program shall not be deemed an employee of the
17 State. The State Board of Education may adopt any rules
18 necessary to carry out its responsibilities under this
19 Section.

20 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.132 new)

21 Sec. 2-3.132. Teacher loan repayment program. Subject to
22 appropriation, the State Board of Education shall establish
23 and administer a loan repayment program for teachers who
24 contract with the State Board of Education to teach in a
25 public school, for a minimum of 5 consecutive school years,
26 in a school district that has a shortage of teachers or in a
27 subject area that has a shortage of teachers. Under this
28 program, each school year the State Board of Education shall
29 award a grant to a teacher under contract in an amount that
30 equals 50% of the amount in higher education student loans

1 that the person must repay that school year. The State Board
2 of Education shall encourage recipients to use the grants to
3 pay off their educational loans. The State Board of Education
4 may adopt any rules necessary to carry out its
5 responsibilities under this Section.

6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect on July
7 1, 2003.