

Hall of the House of Representatives
84th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2003
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 2903

"AN ACT TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL BONUS OF TEACHERS OBTAINING NATIONAL
BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS CERTIFICATION. "

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 2903.

Amend House Bill No. 2903 as originally introduced:

Delete everything following the enacting clause and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-413 is amended to read as follows:

6-17-413. National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification funding.

(a)(1)(A) The Department of Education shall pay the full amount of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards' participation fee and provide, if determined to be necessary by the department, substitute pay for a maximum of three (3) days of approved paid leave for teachers selected by the State Board of Education to participate in the national board's program.

(B) A teacher shall have completed at least three (3) years of teaching in the Arkansas public school system before applying for the assistance under this section and § 6-17-412 and shall not have previously received state funding for participation in any certification area in the national board's program.

(2) The state board shall promulgate rules and regulations for the selection process of teacher participants in the national board's program. The number of teacher participants each year will be determined by the amount of funding available for the program.

(3)(A) The department shall pay a starting incentive bonus of ~~two thousand dollars (\$2,000)~~ five thousand dollars (\$5,000) upon receiving the national board's certification and a yearly incentive bonus of ~~two thousand dollars (\$2,000)~~ five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for every school year for the life of the national board's certificate to any classroom teacher, building-level principal, or building-level assistant principal who:

(i) Is selected by the state board to participate in the national board's program;

(ii) Successfully completes the national board's certification process;

(iii) Receives national board certification; and

(iv) Is, at the time of receiving the bonus, employed full time as a classroom teacher, a building-level principal, or a building-level assistant principal in an Arkansas public school district.



(B) Any nationally board-certified teacher who moves into the state and is employed full time as a classroom teacher, building-level principal, or building-level assistant principal in an Arkansas public school district shall be eligible for the yearly incentive bonus of ~~two thousand dollars (\$2,000)~~ five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for every school year the person is employed full time as a classroom teacher, building-level principal, or building-level assistant principal in a local public school district for the life of the national board's certificate.

~~(C) The department shall pay increased incentive bonuses each school year that sufficient funds have been appropriated and are available for paying the increased bonuses, as follows:~~

~~(i) Three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in addition to the starting incentive bonus provided in subdivision (a)(3)(A) of this section; and~~

~~(ii) One thousand dollars (\$1,000) in addition to the yearly incentive bonuses provided in subdivisions (a)(3)(A) and (a)(3)(B) of this section.~~

~~(D)(C) The increased incentive bonuses provided in subdivision (a)(3)(C) of this section this act of 2003 shall not be retroactive, and no obligations shall accumulate for school years in which sufficient funds are not appropriated or available.~~

~~(E)(D) No person shall receive a starting bonus and a yearly incentive for the same school year.~~

~~(F)(E) No person shall receive either a starting incentive bonus or a yearly incentive bonus, irrespective of the person's past participation in the national board's certification as either a teacher, a building-level principal, or a building-level assistant principal if the person:~~

~~(i) Leaves the full-time employment of an Arkansas public school district;~~

~~(ii) Becomes employed as a district-level central office administrator;~~

~~(iii) Is employed by an Arkansas institution of higher education; or~~

~~(iv) Is employed by an education service cooperative and does not teach in a classroom with students.~~

~~(G)(F) At the time that the national board establishes a national board certification for school administrators and an Arkansas district-level central office administrator becomes national board certified, the district-level central office will be eligible to receive incentive bonuses in the amount awarded to national board certified teachers for every year for the life of the national board's administrator certificate.~~

(4) The state board is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to establish a support program for teachers selected to participate in the national board's program.

(b)(1) A teacher who receives state moneys for the national board's participation fee but who does not complete the certification process within three (3) years after the teacher's entry into the national board's certification program or who becomes national board-certified but does not teach or serve as a building-level principal in the Arkansas public school system for two (2) continuous school years after receiving the national board's certification shall repay the department the amount it contributed to

the national board's participation fee and the total amount it contributed to any yearly bonus.

(2) If the teacher, principal, or assistant principal leaves the employment of a public school district before the two (2) continuous years are completed and is employed by an Arkansas institution of higher education or employed by an education service cooperative and the teacher does not teach in a classroom with students, the teacher, principal, or assistant principal shall repay the department the amount it contributed to the national board's participation fee and the total amount it contributed to any yearly salary bonus.

(3) The state board may suspend the Arkansas teacher's license of any person that fails, when required to do so, to repay moneys contributed by the department for the national board certification program.

(4) Repayment of moneys contributed by the department is not required if, due to the death or disability of the teacher or other extenuating circumstances as may be recognized by the state board, the teacher does not complete the national board's certification process or does not teach in the Arkansas public school system for two (2) continuous school years after completing the national board's certification process.

(c) Provisions of this section and § 6-17-412 shall apply only to the extent that funds are appropriated to the department to pay for these provisions."

The Amendment was read
By: Representative Harris
KAS/VJF - 031820030913
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Chief Clerk