

Stricken language would be deleted from present law. Underlined language would be added to present law.

1 State of Arkansas
2 81st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1997
4

As Engrossed: H3/21/97 H3/26/97

A Bill

ACT 1324 OF 1997
HOUSE BILL 1858

5 By: Representative Thicksten
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE ANNOTATED § 6-5-307 TO
10 PROVIDE THAT INCREASES IN EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE TRUST
11 FUND FUNDS *ALLOCATED FOR TEACHER SALARIES AND* DISTRIBUTED
12 TO LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHALL BE DIVIDED EQUALLY AMONG
13 CERTIFIED PERSONNEL *EMPLOYED IN THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR*
14 AND THAT ALL SUCH FUNDS SHALL BE DISBURSED BY THE
15 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION; TO ADD A NEW SECTION TO TITLE 6,
16 CHAPTER 5, SUBCHAPTER 3 OF THE ARKANSAS CODE TO CLARIFY
17 LEGISLATIVE INTENT THAT EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE TRUST FUNDS
18 SHALL SUPPLEMENT RATHER THAN SUPPLANT EXISTING FUNDS FOR
19 PUBLIC EDUCATION; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER
20 PURPOSES."

Subtitle

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22
23 "TO PROVIDE THAT INCREASES IN
24 EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE TRUST FUND FUNDS
25 *ALLOCATED FOR TEACHER SALARIES AND*
26 DISTRIBUTED TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHALL BE
27 DIVIDED EQUALLY AMONG CERTIFIED
28 PERSONNEL."
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30 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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32 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-5-307 is amended to read as
33 follows:

34 "6-5-307. Classroom teacher salary requirement.

35 (a) For the ~~1996-97~~ 1997-98 school year, and each year thereafter,

36 ~~local school districts must first expend Educational Excellence Trust Fund~~

1 ~~funds to satisfy the classroom teacher salary requirement of one thousand five~~
 2 ~~hundred forty-eight dollars and fifty-nine cents (\$1,548.59) per average daily~~
 3 ~~membership~~ any increase in Educational Excellence Trust Fund funds allocated
 4 for teacher salaries shall be divided equally among all certified personnel
 5 positions employed in the current school year and for no other purposes,
 6 except that required social security and teacher retirement matching for
 7 certified personnel may be paid from such funds.

8 (b) Educational Excellence Trust Fund funds allocated for teacher
 9 salaries shall be disbursed by the Department of Education to school
 10 districts pursuant to the state equalization formula.

11 (c) In determining if a school district has had an increase in
 12 Educational Excellence Trust Fund funds allocated for teacher salaries,
 13 any annual increase in such trust funds must exceed the level of the
 14 highest year since 1991 to be classified as an increase."

15
 16 SECTION 2. Title 6, Chapter 5, Subchapter 3 of the Arkansas Code
 17 Annotated is amended by adding a new section to read as follows:

18 "6-5-308. Legislative intent - Supplemental funding for public
 19 education.

20 It is the intent of this subchapter to supplement, not to supplant,
 21 funding for public education in this state. Nothing herein shall be construed
 22 to reduce that portion of general revenue or growth revenues which would
 23 otherwise accrue to the Public School Fund. The moneys provided by this
 24 subchapter are intended to be in addition to those anticipated to be provided
 25 to fund public education for the children of this state at the same historical
 26 proportionate levels."

27
 28 SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
 29 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
 30 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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 32 SECTION 4. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
 33 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
 34 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
 35 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
 36 act are declared to be severable.

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SECTION 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

/s/Rep. Thicksten

APPROVED: 4-10-97