

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

Act 1449 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009
4

As Engrossed: H3/18/09 H3/26/09

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1862

5 By: Representatives Carnine, J. Roebuck
6 By: Senator J. Jeffress
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8

9 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

10 AN ACT TO ENSURE INDIVIDUALS WITH NATIONAL BOARD
11 FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS CERTIFICATION
12 ARE ELIGIBLE FOR PAYMENTS WHILE THEY CONTRIBUTE
13 TO THE SUCCESS OF THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOL
14 SYSTEM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
15

16 **Subtitle**

17 TO ENSURE INDIVIDUALS WITH NATIONAL
18 BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING
19 STANDARDS CERTIFICATION ARE ELIGIBLE FOR
20 PAYMENTS WHILE THEY CONTRIBUTE TO THE
21 SUCCESS OF THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOL
22 SYSTEM.
23
24

25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
26

27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-413(a)(3)(A)(iv), concerning National
28 Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification funding, is amended
29 to read as follows:

30 (iv) Is, at the time of receiving the bonus, ;

31 (a) employed ~~Employed~~ full time as a
32 classroom teacher, a building-level principal, or a building-level assistant
33 principal in an Arkansas public school district ; ~~or~~

34 (b)(1) After working a minimum of three (3)
35 years with national board certification as a classroom teacher, building-



1 level principal, or building-level assistant principal in a public school
 2 district, employed full time as a teacher in an accredited teacher
 3 preparation program at a state-supported institution of higher education.

4 (2)(A) Only teachers who hold national board
 5 certification on or after August 1, 2009, shall be eligible for a bonus for
 6 employment as provided under this subdivision (a)(3)(A)(iv)(b) if funds are
 7 available after payments are made to those eligible under subdivisions
 8 (a)(3)(A)(iv)(a) and (a)(3)(B)(i).

9 (B) However, a bonus payment shall not
 10 be made retroactive.

11
 12 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-17-413(a)(3)(B), concerning National
 13 Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification funding, is amended
 14 to read as follows:

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

23 (ii) A teacher who holds national board
 24 certification on or after August 1, 2009, who moves into the state shall be
 25 eligible for the yearly incentive bonus of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for
 26 every school year the teacher is employed full time, for the life of the
 27 certificate of the national board, if, after working for three (3) years with
 28 national board certification as a classroom teacher, building-level
 29 principal, or building-level assistant principal in a public school district
 30 in this state, the teacher is employed as a teacher in an accredited teacher
 31 preparation program at a state-supported institution of higher education if
 32 funds are available after payments are made to those eligible under
 33 subdivisions (a)(3)(iv)(a) and (a)(3)(B)(i).

34
 35 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-17-413(a)(3)(F), concerning National
 36 Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification funding, is amended

1 to read as follows:

2 (F) ~~No person shall~~ A person shall not receive either a
 3 starting incentive bonus or a yearly incentive bonus, irrespective of the
 4 person's past participation in the certification of the national board, as
 5 ~~either~~ a teacher, a building-level principal, or a building-level assistant
 6 principal in an Arkansas public school district or teacher in an accredited
 7 teacher preparation program at a state-supported institution of higher
 8 education if the person:

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

11 (ii) Becomes employed as a school district-level
 12 central office administrator;

13 (iii) Is employed by an Arkansas institution of
 14 higher education and does not teach in an accredited teacher preparation
 15 program; or

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

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19 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-17-413(b), concerning National Board for
 20 Professional Teaching Standards certification funding, is amended to read as
 21 follows:

22 (b)(1) A teacher who receives state moneys for the participation fee
 23 of the national board but who does not complete the certification process
 24 within three (3) years after the teacher's entry into the certification
 25 program of the national board or who becomes certified by the national board
 26 but does not teach or serve as a building-level principal or building-level
 27 assistant principal in the Arkansas public school system for ~~two (2)~~ three
 28 (3) continuous school years after receiving the certification by the national
 29 board shall repay the department the amount it contributed to the
 30 participation fee of the national board and the total amount it contributed
 31 to any yearly bonus.

32 (2) If the teacher, principal, or assistant principal leaves the
 33 employment of a public school district before the ~~two (2)~~ three (3)
 34 continuous years are completed and is employed by an Arkansas institution of
 35 higher education or employed by an education service cooperative and the
 36 teacher does not teach in a classroom with students, the teacher, principal,

1 or assistant principal shall repay the department the amount it contributed
2 to the participation fee of the national board and the total amount it
3 contributed to any yearly salary bonus.

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

8 (4) Repayment of moneys contributed by the department is not
9 required if, due to the death or disability of the teacher or other
10 extenuating circumstances as may be recognized by the State Board of
11 Education, the teacher does not complete the certification process of the
12 national board or does not teach in the Arkansas public school system for ~~two~~
13 ~~(2)~~ three (3) continuous school years after completing the certification
14 process of the national board.

15
16 /s/ Carnine

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18 **APPROVED: 4/10/2009**
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