1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: H3/23/01 A Bill 2 Act 1485 of 2001 83rd General Assembly HOUSE BILL 2653 3 Regular Session, 2001 4 By: Representative Cleveland 5 6 7 For An Act To Be Entitled 8 AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF TITLE 6 OF 9 THE ARKANSAS CODE RELATIVE TO SUPPLEMENTAL 10 11 TEACHER PAY; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. 12 13 **Subtitle** 14 AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF 15 16 TITLE 6 OF THE ARKANSAS CODE RELATIVE TO SUPPLEMENTAL TEACHER PAY; TO DECLARE AN 17 18 EMERGENCY. 19 20 21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS: 22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 6-17-204 is amended to read as follows: 23 24 6-17-204. Incorporation into teachers' contracts. 25 (a) The personnel policies of each school district all school 26 districts shall be considered to be incorporated as terms of the certified personnel contracts and shall be binding upon the certified personnel and the 27 28 district. 29 (b)(1) Any changes or additions to the personnel policies shall not be considered a part of certified personnel contracts until the next fiscal 30 31 year. (2)(A) Any changes or additions to the personnel policies may 32 take effect before the next fiscal year only if the changes or additions are 33 approved by a majority of the certified personnel employed by the district 34 voting by secret ballot. 35 36 (B) The voting and counting shall be conducted by the

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(3) All changes or additions to the personnel policies or new personnel policies shall be made in accordance with this subchapter.

- (c)(1)(A) A district may adopt a uniform policy, in accordance with this subchapter, limiting the number of past years' experience for which all newly employed certified personnel will receive credit on the salary schedule.
- (B) The policy shall be written so that a prospective certified employee can determine his or her placement on the salary schedule.
  - (2) A school district shall adopt, in accordance with this subchapter, a supplement to the salary schedule for those certified staff employed longer than the period covered by the salary schedule and for duties in addition to certified employees' regular teaching assignments.
  - (3) Compensation policies approved by the personnel policy committee shall not apply to the chief administrator who is charged with administration of salary policy for all employees.
  - (4) No certified person may waive payment according to the salary schedule.
  - (d) Under the provisions of the Educator's Compensation Act of 2001, no school district shall be prohibited from paying certified staff additional salary increases as a supplement to the salary schedule even though the certified staff is not employed an additional time period longer than the period covered by the salary schedule or required to perform duties in addition to the certified employees regular teaching assignments.

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly that recent litigation has created confusion as to the manner in which school districts pay certified employees and that not to address the issue would create confusion in the state's public school districts and among school personnel. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall become effective on July 1, 2001.

33 /s/ Cl evel and

**APPROVED: 4/11/2001**