

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 1135 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas  
2 88th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2011  
4

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 663

5 By: Senator Crumbly  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE § 6-17-811 CONCERNING  
9 THE HIGH-PRIORITY SCHOOL DISTRICT TEACHER INCENTIVES;  
10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
11

## Subtitle

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13 TO AMEND THE HIGH-PRIORITY SCHOOL  
14 DISTRICT TEACHER INCENTIVES LAW.  
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18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-811(a), concerning the definitions for  
21 high-priority school district teacher incentives, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (a) As used in this section:

24 (1) "High-priority district" means a public school district:

25 (A) In which eighty percent (80%) or more of public school  
26 students are ~~eligible for the free or reduced-price lunch program under the~~  
27 ~~National School Lunch Act based on the October 1 student count of the~~  
28 ~~previous year submitted to the Department of Education~~ national school lunch  
29 students; and

30 (B)(i) Except as provided by subdivision (a)(1)(B)(ii) of  
31 this section, that had a three-quarter average daily membership in the  
32 previous year of one thousand (1,000) or fewer students.

33 (ii) In order to further the state's policy of  
34 encouraging efficiency and the expansion of available course offerings that  
35 might be achieved through the voluntary consolidation or annexation of school  
36 districts, qualifying teachers in the resulting school district in an



1 approved voluntary consolidation under § 6-13-1404(a)(2) or § 6-13-1603(a) or  
2 in a receiving district in an approved voluntary annexation under § 6-13-  
3 1403(a)(2)-(4) or § 6-13-1603(a) shall continue to receive the funding  
4 provided under this section if all school districts in the voluntary  
5 consolidation or annexation were high-priority districts in the immediately  
6 preceding school year, even if the average daily membership of the resulting  
7 or receiving school district is one thousand (1,000) or above.

8 (iii) By April 15 of each year, the State Board of  
9 Education shall determine the districts that qualify as high-priority  
10 districts of the state;

11 (2)(A) "National school lunch students" means those students or  
12 the percentage of enrolled students from low socioeconomic backgrounds as  
13 indicated by eligibility for free or reduced-price meals under the National  
14 School Lunch Act as determined on October 1 of each previous school year and  
15 submitted to the Department of Education, unless the school district is  
16 identified by the Department of Education as participating in the special  
17 assistance certification and reimbursement alternative implemented under 42  
18 U.S.C. § 1759a, as interpreted in 7 C.F.R. § 245.9.

19 (B) If the school district is participating under 42  
20 U.S.C. § 1759a, then for purposes of this section, the school district's  
21 annual percentage of national school lunch students is equal to the  
22 percentage submitted in the base year, which means the last school year for  
23 which eligibility determinations were made and meal counts were taken by  
24 type;

25 ~~(2)(A)(3)(A)~~ "New teacher bonus" means an incentive bonus  
26 provided under subdivisions (b)(1)-(3) of this section to a teacher who is  
27 within the first three (3) years of employment with a single high-priority  
28 district.

29 (B) A teacher is not entitled to receive a new teacher  
30 bonus from any high-priority district other than the high-priority district  
31 that first employed the teacher and paid the teacher a new teacher bonus;

32 ~~(3)(4)~~ "Previous year" means the school year immediately  
33 preceding the present school year;

34 ~~(4)(5)~~ "Retention bonus" means an incentive bonus provided under  
35 subdivision (b)(4) or subdivision (b)(5) of this section; and

36 ~~(5)(A)(6)(A)~~ "Teacher" means a licensed classroom teacher who

1 spends seventy percent (70%) of his or her time working directly with  
2 students in a classroom setting teaching all grade-level or subject-matter  
3 appropriate classes.

4 (B) "Teacher" includes a guidance counselor or librarian.  
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7 **APPROVED: 04/04/2011**  
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