

Hall of the House of Representatives
86th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2007
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 2260

"TO PROVIDE BONUSES FOR HIGHLY QUALIFIED PARAPROFESSIONALS WHO
OBTAIN ASSOCIATE DEGREES OR COMPLETE SIXTY (60) HOURS OF COURSE WORK
AT AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION."

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 2260.

Amend House Bill No. 2260 as originally introduced:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and substitute:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 17, Subchapter 22 is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-17-2206. Highly qualified paraprofessional bonuses.

(a)(1) The purpose of this section is to provide a bonus from the Department of Education in recognition of the efforts made by paraprofessional employees who attain highly qualified status.

(2) A person who is eligible for a bonus under this section may receive a bonus under subsection (b) or (c) but shall not receive a bonus under both sections.

(3) The bonuses under this section are contingent upon the appropriation and availability of funding.

(b) A paraprofessional who is under a contract of employment with a public school district or education service cooperative as a paraprofessional employee on May 1, 2007, and who holds an associate degree or higher degree shall be considered a highly qualified paraprofessional and shall receive a one-time bonus of one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

(c) A paraprofessional who is under a contract of employment with a public school district or education service cooperative as a paraprofessional employee on May 1, 2007, shall be considered a highly qualified paraprofessional and shall receive a one-time bonus of five hundred dollars (\$500) if he or she has:

(1) Completed sixty (60) hours of coursework at an institution of higher education; or

(2) Passed the high-stakes test for highly qualified status.

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that paraprofessionals are important to the delivery of educational services to students in the state;



that the federal No Child Left Behind Act requires all paraprofessionals who provide instructional support and who work in a program supported with Title I, Part A funds to meet certain federal qualification requirements to achieve highly qualified paraprofessional status; that this act is immediately necessary to authorize the Department of Education to provide bonuses for all paraprofessional employees who have attained the highly qualified status. 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:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.”

The Amendment was read _____

By: Representative Chesterfield

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Chief Clerk