

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **79th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1993**
4 **By: Senator Miles**

A Bill

SENATE BILL 663

For An Act To Be Entitled

"AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS TEACHERS_ POSTGRADUATE
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR QUALIFIED GRADUATES OF TEACHER
EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION WHO
AGREE TO TEACH AT LEAST THREE (3) YEARS IN SCHOOL
DISTRICTS LOCATED IN ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED COUNTIES;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Subtitle

"CREATING THE ARKANSAS TEACHERS_ POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP
PROGRAM AS AN INCENTIVE TO TEACH IN ECONOMICALLY
DISADVANTAGED COUNTIES."

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

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Arkansas
Teachers_ Postgraduate Scholarship Program Act of 1993."

SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND PURPOSE. The Arkansas General
Assembly hereby finds and determines that school districts in certain
economically disadvantaged counties in this state are in dire need of
certified teachers. Therefore, it is the purpose of this act to provide an
incentive whereby qualified graduates of teacher education programs in
institutions of higher education *located in Arkansas* agree to teach in these
economically disadvantaged counties for at least three (3) years.

SECTION 3. (a) Beginning with the 1993 graduating class, a person who
graduates in the top ten percent (10%) of a teacher education undergraduate
program at an institution of higher education *located in Arkansas* shall be

1 eligible to apply to the State Department of Education for financial
2 assistance in pursuing an advanced education degree, provided that such
3 graduate agrees to teach successfully for at least three (3) school years in a
4 school district located in a county meeting the following qualifications:

5 (1) An unemployment rate above nine percent (9%), according to
6 the Arkansas Employment Security Department; and

7 (2) An average household income below seventeen thousand dollars
8 (\$17,000); and

9 (3) Twenty-five percent (25%) or more of the population live
10 below the poverty level as defined by the federal government.

11 (b) After each of the three (3) years spent successfully teaching in a
12 school district located in a county described in subsection (a), the graduate
13 shall receive a one thousand dollar (\$1,000) stipend from the State Department
14 of Education to attend education seminars or to enroll in summer school in
15 pursuit of an advanced education degree.

16 (c) After completing three (3) years of successful teaching in a school
17 district located in a county described in subsection (a), the graduate shall
18 receive fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) in financial assistance from the
19 State Department of Education for pursuit of an advanced education degree at
20 an Arkansas public institution of higher education.

21 (d) Participation in the Arkansas Teachers_ Post Graduate Scholarship
22 Program shall be limited to thirty (30) 1993 graduates during the 1993-94
23 school year and thirty (30) additional graduates each succeeding year.

24 SECTION 4. (a) The State Department of Education is hereby charged
25 with the administration and implementation of the Arkansas Teachers_
26 Postgraduate Scholarship Program.

27 (b) During the 1993-94 school year, the State Department of Education
28 shall promulgate necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of
29 this act.

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31 SECTION 5. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
32 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
33 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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35 SECTION 6. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to

1 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
2 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
3 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
4 act are declared to be severable.

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6 SECTION 7. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
7 hereby repealed.

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/s/ Senator Miles

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