

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.

1 State of Arkansas
2 83rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2001

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2458

4
5 By: Representative McMellon
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO REQUIRE SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO PAY HEALTH
10 INSURANCE PREMIUMS FOR SCHOOL TEACHERS.

Subtitle

11
12 AN ACT TO REQUIRE SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO
13 PAY HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS FOR SCHOOL
14 TEACHERS.
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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 6-17-1117 is amended to read as follows:
21 6-17-1117. Health insurance.

22 (a) For purposes of this section, "teacher" means an individual
23 employed by a school district, and:

24 (1) Who must hold a certificate issued by the State Board
25 of Education in order to be employed in the individual's present position;
26 and

27 (2) Whose primary job responsibilities are for the
28 education of public school students in grades kindergarten through twelve (K-
29 12) and do not include district-wide administrative duties.

30 (b) ~~Local~~ Except as provided in subsection (c)(1), local school
31 districts shall pay the health insurance contribution rate established by the
32 State Board of Education, for each eligible employee electing to participate
33 in the public school employee health insurance program.

34 (c)(1) Beginning on July 1, 2001, local school districts shall pay the
35 full monthly health insurance cost for each eligible teacher electing to
36 participate in the public school employee health insurance program, but not

1 for the teacher's spouse or other dependents.

2 (2) Each eligible teacher electing to not participate in the
3 public school employee health insurance program shall receive an amount equal
4 to eleven hundred ninety-nine dollars and seventy-six cents (\$1199.76) over
5 the teacher's salary for fiscal year 2001.

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7 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
8 General Assembly that the state of Arkansas is experiencing a critical
9 shortage of teachers; that the critical shortage is caused in part by non-
10 competitive salaries and benefits for teachers in Arkansas; and that the
11 state is facing a pressing need to improve benefits for teachers prior to the
12 beginning of the 2001-2002 school year. Therefore, an emergency is declared
13 to exist and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the
14 public peace, health and safety shall become effective on July 1, 2001.

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