

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1600

By: Representative G. Hodges
By: Senator J. Sturch

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM; TO CONSIDER AN INDIVIDUAL WHO EARNS A TEACHING LICENSE UPON THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE ARKANSAS PROFESSIONAL PATHWAY TO EDUCATOR LICENSURE PROGRAM AN ELIGIBLE APPLICANT UNDER THE STATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO CONSIDER AN INDIVIDUAL WHO EARNS A TEACHING LICENSE UPON THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE ARKANSAS PROFESSIONAL PATHWAY TO EDUCATOR LICENSURE PROGRAM AN ELIGIBLE APPLICANT UNDER THE STATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1605(3), concerning eligibility criteria established by the Department of Higher Education for applicants to the State Teacher Education Program, is amended to read as follows:

(3)(A) Meet additional continuing eligibility criteria established by the Department of Higher Education.

(B) An individual who has earned a teaching license upon the successful completion of the Non-Traditional Licensure Program or the Arkansas Professional Pathway to Educator Licensure program is an eligible



student under this section.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1606(a), concerning the duration and amount of loan repayments under the State Teacher Education Program, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The State Teacher Education Program shall be used to provide a loan repayment for federal student loans in the amount of:

(1) Three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per year for a maximum of three (3) years for a licensed teacher who graduated from a teacher education program after April 2004 and teaches in a public school in this state or successfully completed the Non-Traditional Licensure Program or the Arkansas Professional Pathway to Educator Licensure program:

(A) In a subject area designated by the Department of Higher Education in consultation with the Department of Education as having a critical shortage of teachers; or

(B) Located in a geographical area of the state designated by the Department of Higher Education in consultation with the Department of Education as having a critical shortage of teachers; and

(2) An additional one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per year for a maximum of three (3) years for a licensed teacher who ~~is~~:

(A) Is a minority and who graduated;

(B) Either:

(i) Graduated from a teacher education program after April 2004; or

(ii) Successfully completed the Non-Traditional Licensure Program or the Arkansas Professional Pathway to Educator Licensure program; and teaches

(C) Teaches in a public school in this state.