
By: **Delegates V. Jones, Conway, D'Amato, DeCarlo, Dobson, Doory, Fulton, Hubers, Kagan, Kirk, Kopp, Marriott, Montague, Paige, Proctor, Rawlings, Stocksdales, and Turner**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2001

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools - Teacher Incentives - Eligibility**

3 FOR the purpose of including certain teachers as eligible for certain State stipends
4 and bonuses; providing for the application of this Act; altering the qualifications
5 for a teacher to be eligible for a certain bonus; defining a certain term; and
6 generally relating to eligibility for State stipends and bonuses for teachers.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Education
9 Section 6-306
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article - Education**

15 6-306.

16 (a) In this section[, "county] THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
17 INDICATED.

18 (1) "CLASSROOM TEACHER" INCLUDES A MASTER TEACHER, A
19 CONSULTING TEACHER, OR AN INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT TEACHER, WHO HAS
20 CLASSROOM TEACHING RESPONSIBILITY.

21 (2) "COUNTY grant for national certification" means an annual grant
22 distributed to a teacher certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching
23 Standards established:

24 [(1)] (I) Outside of the collective bargaining process; or

1 [(2)] (II) As part of a collective bargaining agreement with the local
2 employee organization.

3 (b) (1) For fiscal year 2000 and each subsequent fiscal year, the Governor
4 shall include in each year's operating budget funding for the stipends and bonuses
5 provided in this subsection.

6 (2) A classroom teacher who holds a standard professional certificate or
7 an advanced professional certificate who is employed by a county board and who
8 holds a certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
9 shall receive a stipend from the State in an amount equal to the county grant for
10 national certification, up to a maximum of \$2,000 per qualified teacher.

11 (3) (i) An individual who graduates from an accredited institution of
12 higher education [in the top 10% of his or her class] WITH A GRADE POINT AVERAGE
13 OF 3.60 OR BETTER BASED ON A 4.0 SCALE, becomes employed by a county board, and
14 remains employed as a classroom teacher in the public school system for a minimum
15 of 3 consecutive years shall receive a salary signing bonus of \$1,000.

16 (ii) If the individual leaves employment with the public school
17 system before the end of the 3-year commitment, the individual shall reimburse the
18 State in the amount of \$1,000.

19 (4) A classroom teacher who holds an advanced professional certificate
20 and teaches in a public school identified by the State Board as a reconstitution school,
21 a reconstitution-eligible school, or a challenge school shall receive a stipend from the
22 State in the amount of \$2,000 for each year that the teacher performs satisfactorily in
23 the classroom.

24 (c) An individual who receives a stipend or bonus under subsection (b) of this
25 section may not be deemed an employee of the State.

26 (d) The employer of an individual who receives a stipend or bonus under
27 subsection (b) of this section shall pay the increase in fringe benefit costs associated
28 with the stipend or bonus.

29 (e) The Department shall act as fiscal agent for funds disbursed under this
30 section.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be
32 construed retroactively and shall be applied to and interpreted to affect and require
33 the payment of all stipends or bonuses to all master teachers, consulting teachers,
34 and instructional support teachers who qualified for a stipend or bonus on or after
35 July 1, 1999.

36 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
37 July 1, 2001.