

(PRE-FILED)

---

By: **Delegates Leopold and McKee**  
Requested: October 16, 2001  
Introduced and read first time: January 9, 2002  
Assigned to: Ways and Means

---

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - State Stipends - Eligibility of Library Media Specialists and**  
3 **Reading Specialists**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of "classroom teacher" as it relates to the  
5 eligibility of certain reading specialists and library media specialists to receive  
6 certain State stipends; and generally relating to the eligibility of library media  
7 specialists and reading specialists to receive State stipends.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article - Education  
10 Section 6-306  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

15 **Article - Education**

16 6-306.

17 (a) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
18 INDICATED.

19 (2) "CLASSROOM TEACHER" INCLUDES LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS  
20 AND READING SPECIALISTS.

21 (3) [In this section, "county] "COUNTY grant for national certification"  
22 means an annual grant distributed to a teacher certified by the National Board for  
23 Professional Teaching Standards established:

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

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

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

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

9 (3) (i) An individual who graduates from an accredited institution of  
10 higher education in the top 10% of his or her class, becomes employed by a county  
11 board, and remains employed as a classroom teacher in the public school system for a  
12 minimum of 3 consecutive years shall receive a salary signing bonus of \$1,000.

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

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

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

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

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

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
29 October 1, 2002.