
By: **Chairman, Ways and Means Committee (By Request - Departmental - Education)**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2004

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Teacher Incentives**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain college graduates to be eligible, under certain
4 circumstances, for certain stipends; authorizing certain teachers to receive,
5 under certain circumstances, certain stipends; and generally relating to public
6 education and incentives for teachers.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Education
9 Section 6-306
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2003 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 grant for national certification" means an annual
17 grant distributed to a teacher certified by the National Board for Professional
18 Teaching Standards established:

19 (1) Outside of the collective bargaining process; or
20 (2) As part of a collective bargaining agreement with the local employee
21 organization.

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

25 (2) A classroom teacher who holds a standard professional certificate or
26 an advanced professional certificate who is employed by a county board and who

1 holds a certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
2 shall receive a stipend from the State in an amount equal to the county grant for
3 national certification, up to a maximum of \$2,000 per qualified teacher.

4 (3) (i) An individual who graduates from an accredited institution of
5 higher education with a grade point average of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale or its
6 equivalent, IS ELIGIBLE FOR A PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE OR FOR A RESIDENT
7 TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE, becomes employed by a county board, and remains
8 employed as a classroom teacher in the public school system for a minimum of 3
9 consecutive years shall receive a salary signing bonus of \$1,000.

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

13 (4) A classroom teacher who holds [an advanced professional certificate
14 and teaches in a public school identified by the State Board as a reconstitution school,
15 a reconstitution-eligible school, or a challenge school shall receive a stipend from the
16 State in the amount of \$2,000 for each year that the teacher performs satisfactorily in
17 the classroom] A PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE OR A RESIDENT TEACHER'S
18 CERTIFICATE AND TEACHES IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL IDENTIFIED IN ACCORDANCE
19 WITH STATE BOARD REGULATIONS AS A SCHOOL IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENT, A
20 SCHOOL UNDER CORRECTIVE ACTION, OR A RESTRUCTURED SCHOOL THAT
21 ACHIEVES ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS FOR 2 CONSECUTIVE YEARS, SHALL
22 RECEIVE A ONE-TIME STIPEND FROM THE STATE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,000,
23 PROVIDED THAT THE TEACHER TAUGHT IN THE SCHOOL FOR THE 2 YEARS IN WHICH
24 THE SCHOOL ACHIEVED ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS.

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

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

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

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
33 effect July 1, 2004.