

# SENATE BILL 58

F1

71r0425

---

By: **Senators Pinsky, Britt, and Raskin**

Introduced and read first time: January 19, 2007

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Study Commission to Explore the Expanded Application of State Stipends for**  
3 **National Certification of Teachers**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Study Commission to Explore the Expanded  
5 Application of State Stipends for National Certification of Teachers; providing  
6 for the membership of the Study Commission; requiring the Governor to  
7 designate the chair of the Study Commission; requiring the State Department of  
8 Education to provide staff for the Study Commission; providing that a member  
9 of the Study Commission may not receive compensation but is entitled to  
10 certain reimbursement; requiring the Study Commission to assess the rigor of  
11 national certification for certain occupations and determine how these national  
12 certifications compare to national teacher certification and make certain  
13 recommendations; requiring the Study Commission to report certain findings  
14 and recommendations to the Governor and to the General Assembly on or before  
15 a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating  
16 to the expanded application of State stipends for national certification of  
17 teachers.

18 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
19 Article – Education  
20 Section 6–306(a) and (b)(2)  
21 Annotated Code of Maryland  
22 (2006 Replacement Volume)

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

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



**Article - Education**

6-306.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

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

(i) Outside of the collective bargaining process; or

(ii) As part of a collective bargaining agreement with the local employee organization.

(3) "School-based employee" means a certificated employee who works directly with students or teachers at a public school.

(b) (2) A classroom teacher or other nonadministrative school-based employee who holds a standard professional certificate or an advanced professional certificate who is employed by a county board and who holds a certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards shall receive a stipend from the State in an amount equal to the county grant for national certification, up to a maximum of \$2,000 per qualified individual.

**SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:**

(a) There is a Study Commission to Explore the Expanded Application of State Stipends for National Certification of Teachers under § 6-306(b)(2) of the Education Article.

(b) The Study Commission consists of the following members:

(1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;

(2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(3) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the Superintendent's designee; and

1           (4)    the following members, appointed by the Governor:

2                   (i)    one individual who holds a certificate issued by the National  
3 Board for Professional Teaching Standards;

4                   (ii)   one representative of the National Board for Professional  
5 Teaching Standards;

6                   (iii)  two local superintendents;

7                   (iv)   two representatives of local school systems that employ  
8 individuals who hold a certificate issued by the National Board for Professional  
9 Teaching Standards;

10                  (v)    one representative from a private Maryland university that  
11 has a program of teacher education; and

12                  (vi)   one representative from a public Maryland university that  
13 has a program of teacher education.

14           (c)    The Governor shall designate the chair of the Study Commission.

15           (d)    The State Department of Education shall provide staff for the Study  
16 Commission.

17           (e)    A member of the Study Commission:

18                   (1)    may not receive compensation as a member of the Study  
19 Commission; but

20                   (2)    is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard  
21 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

22           (f)    The Study Commission shall:

23                   (1)    assess the rigor of national certification for speech–language  
24 pathologists, occupational therapists, psychologists, physical therapists, school  
25 counselors, and others to determine how each of these national certifications compares  
26 to national teacher certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching  
27 Standards;

28                   (2)    invite academic experts to submit testimony; and

1           (3)     make recommendations regarding whether the stipends awarded  
2 to teachers and other school-based employees under § 6-306(b)(2) of the Education  
3 Article should be expanded to include speech-language pathologists, occupational  
4 therapists, physical therapists, psychologists, school counselors, or others.

5           (g)     On or before December 31, 2007, the Study Commission shall report its  
6 findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of  
7 the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

8           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
9 June 1, 2007. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of May 31,  
10 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be  
11 abrogated and of no further force and effect.