

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1545

By: Representative Sabin

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CLARIFY THAT THE TEACHER COMPENSATION SCHEDULE, NOT THE STATE GRADE CLASSIFICATION SCALE, IS APPLICABLE TO TEACHERS OF THE C-STEP PROGRAM AND THE ARKANSAS NATIONAL GUARD YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM; TO ENSURE THAT THE C-STEP PROGRAM AND THE ARKANSAS NATIONAL GUARD YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM ARE ELIGIBLE FOR CLASSIFICATION AS LOW-INCOME SCHOOLS AND RECEIVE THE BENEFITS THEREOF; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO CLARIFY THAT THE TEACHER COMPENSATION SCHEDULE, NOT THE STATE GRADE CLASSIFICATION SCALE, AND LOW-INCOME SCHOOL STATUS ARE APPLICABLE TO THE C-STEP PROGRAM AND THE ARKANSAS NATIONAL GUARD YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2402(1), concerning the definition of "basic contract", is amended to read as follows:

(1)(A) "Basic contract" means a teacher employment contract for one hundred ninety (190) days that includes ten (10) days of professional development, except at provided under subdivision (1)(B) for teachers employed in a C-Step Program or the Arkansas National Guard Youth Challenge Program.

(B) For the purpose of a teacher employed in the C-



Step Program or the Arkansas National Guard Youth Challenge Program, a basic contract for a teacher means full-time employment for one hundred ninety (190) days that includes ten (10) days of professional development and all additional days in excess of one hundred ninety (190) days paid at the daily rate under § 6-17-2403 that are required for full-time annual employment and subject to the policies and guidelines of the Arkansas National Guard;

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2406 is amended to read as follows:

6-17-2406. Applicability of teacher salary schedule – Low-income school status.

(a) As used in this section, “teacher” means ~~any~~ a full-time employee of the C-Step Program or the Arkansas National Guard Youth Challenge Program, or both:

(1) Who is compelled by law to secure a license from the State Board of Education as a condition precedent to employment in a position in or related to grades prekindergarten through twelve (preK-12); and

(2) Who is:

(A) Engaged directly in instruction with students in a classroom setting, including the administration and preparation requirements for instruction, for more than seventy percent (70%) of the ~~employee’s~~ contracted time;

(B) A guidance counselor; or

(C) A librarian or media specialist.

(b)(1) To the extent that funds are specifically appropriated by the General Assembly, ~~any~~ a teacher employed by the C-Step Program or the Arkansas National Guard Youth Challenge Program, or both, shall be paid no less than the minimum amounts ~~set forth under this subchapter~~ under § 6-17-2403.

(2) The budget of the Arkansas National Guard shall include the calculation of teacher salaries for teachers in the C-Step Program and the Arkansas National Guard Youth Challenge Program based on § 6-17-2403.

(c) The C-Step Program or the Arkansas National Guard Youth Challenge Program may be designated by the Department of Education as a low-income school, and receive the benefits of such designation, if the C-Step Program or the Arkansas National Guard Youth Challenge Program meets the low-income school criteria.

(d) ~~Nothing in this~~ This section ~~shall be construed to~~ does not require a school district to pay the salary of ~~any~~ a teacher who is not an employee of the school district or ~~to~~ require that teachers be paid from any state funds other than as appropriated by the General Assembly.