

Stricken language will be deleted and underlined language will be added.

State of Arkansas  
93rd General Assembly  
Third Extraordinary Session, 2022

# A Bill

Call Item 2  
SENATE BILL 3

By: Senators K. Ingram, L. Chesterfield, Elliott, G. Leding, Teague, C. Tucker  
By: Representatives McCullough, F. Allen, Breaux, Clowney, A. Collins, Deffenbaugh, Ennett, D. Ferguson, K. Ferguson, Fielding, V. Flowers, D. Garner, Gazaway, Godfrey, M. Hodges, Hudson, Love, Magie, Murdock, Nicks, Perry, Richardson, Scott, Springer, Tollett, D. Whitaker, Womack

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE TEACHER PAY SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023; TO CREATE THE RAISING ARKANSAS'S INVESTMENT IN SCHOOLS AND EDUCATORS (RAISE) ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION - TEACHER PAY SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM APPROPRIATION - THE RAISE ACT - FOR THE 2022-2023 FISCAL YEAR.

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

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Raising Arkansas's Investment in Schools and Educators (RAISE) Act".

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - TEACHER PAY SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, to be payable from the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School Fund Account for the Teacher



Pay Sustainability Program for providing additional funding to public school districts in order to provide an immediate raise for teachers as defined by Arkansas Code § 6-17-2402 and to assist public school districts in meeting the minimum salary schedule established by Arkansas Code § 6-17-2403 and amended by this act for teachers as defined by Arkansas Code § 6-17-2402 by the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
NO.	2022-2023
(01) TEACHER PAY SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM	<u>\$600,000,000</u>

SECTION 3. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. FUNDING TRANSFER. Immediately upon the effective date of this act the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall transfer on his or her books and those of the State Treasurer and the Auditor of State, a sum of six hundred million dollars (\$600,000,000) from the General Revenue Allotment Reserve Fund to a new Teacher Pay Sustainability sub-fund in the Educational Adequacy Fund, there to be used specifically for the purpose of distributing grants and aid to local public school districts by the Department of Education for the Teacher Pay Sustainability Program.

SECTION 4. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. TEACHER PAY SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM. Upon the effective date of this act, and as needed from time to time thereafter as determined by the Department of Education, the Arkansas State Treasurer shall transfer funds from the Educational Adequacy Fund - Teacher Pay Sustainability sub-fund to the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School Fund Account to be used solely for the implementation of the Teacher Pay Sustainability Program. Funds in the Teacher Pay Sustainability sub-fund shall be kept separate from all other monies in the Educational Adequacy Fund and shall be utilized by the Department of Education to provide grants and aid to assist public school districts in ensuring that all teachers as defined by Arkansas Code § 6-17-2402 receive an immediate \$4,000 raise in pay and that those

teachers as defined by Arkansas Code § 6-17-2402 receive at least a minimum annual salary of \$42,000 as established by Arkansas Code § 6-17-2403 and amended in this act. The Teacher Pay Sustainability sub-fund shall not be considered part of a public school district’s net legal balance or net legal balance revenues as those terms are defined in Arkansas Code § 6-20-2210 for the purpose of meeting the requirements on limitation of fund balances pursuant to Arkansas Code § 6-20-2210. The Arkansas Department of Education shall promulgate rules to administer this section.

SECTION 5. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2402(3), concerning the definition of "teacher" under the Teacher Compensation Program of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

(3) “Teacher” means:

(A) An individual who is required to hold a teaching license from the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and who is engaged directly in instruction with students in a classroom setting for more than seventy percent (70%) of the individual’s contracted time;

(B) A guidance counselor; ~~or~~

(C) A librarian;

(D) A curriculum specialist;

(E) An instructional facilitator; or

(F) Any other full-time employee of a public school district who is not in an administrator or director-level role and who is required to hold a teaching license issued by the State Board of Education as a condition of employment.

SECTION 6. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2403(b), concerning the minimum teacher compensation schedule, is amended to read as follows:

~~(1) For the 2019-2020 school year:~~

<del>Years of Experience</del>	<del>BA Degree Salary</del>	<del>MA Degree Salary</del>
<del>0</del>	<del>\$32,800</del>	<del>\$37,450</del>
<del>1</del>	<del>33,250</del>	<del>37,950</del>
<del>2</del>	<del>33,700</del>	<del>38,450</del>
<del>3</del>	<del>34,150</del>	<del>38,950</del>

4	34,600	39,450
5	35,050	39,950
6	35,500	40,450
7	35,950	40,950
8	36,400	41,450
9	36,850	41,950
10	37,300	42,450
11	37,750	42,950
12	38,200	43,450
13	38,650	43,950
14	39,100	44,450
15	39,550	44,950;

~~(2) For the 2020-2021 school year:~~

<del>Years of Experience</del>	<del>BA Degree Salary</del>	<del>MA Degree Salary</del>
0	\$33,800	\$38,450
1	34,250	38,950
2	34,700	39,450
3	35,150	39,950
4	35,600	40,450
5	36,050	40,950
6	36,500	41,450
7	36,950	41,950
8	37,400	42,450
9	37,850	42,950
10	38,300	43,450
11	38,750	43,950
12	39,200	44,450
13	39,650	44,950
14	40,100	45,450
15	40,550	45,950;

~~(3) For the 2021-2022 school year:~~

<del>Years of Experience</del>	<del>BA Degree Salary</del>	<del>MA Degree Salary</del>
0	\$34,900	\$39,550
1	35,350	40,050
2	35,800	40,550
3	36,250	41,050

4	36,700	41,550
5	37,150	42,050
6	37,600	42,550
7	38,050	43,050
8	38,500	43,550
9	38,950	44,050
10	39,400	44,550
11	39,850	45,050
12	40,300	45,550
13	40,750	46,050
14	41,200	46,550
15	41,650	47,050; and

(4) For the 2022-2023 school year and each school year thereafter:

Years of Experience	BA Degree Salary	MA Degree Salary
0	<del>\$36,000</del> <u>\$42,000</u>	<del>\$40,650</del> <u>\$47,430</u>
1	<del>36,450</del> <u>42,520</u>	<del>41,150</del> <u>48,010</u>
2	<del>36,900</del> <u>43,050</u>	<del>41,650</del> <u>48,590</u>
3	<del>37,350</del> <u>43,580</u>	<del>42,150</del> <u>49,180</u>
4	<del>37,800</del> <u>44,100</u>	<del>42,650</del> <u>49,760</u>
5	<del>38,250</del> <u>44,620</u>	<del>43,150</del> <u>50,340</u>
6	<del>38,700</del> <u>45,150</u>	<del>43,650</del> <u>50,930</u>
7	<del>39,150</del> <u>45,680</u>	<del>44,150</del> <u>51,510</u>
8	<del>39,600</del> <u>46,200</u>	<del>44,650</del> <u>52,090</u>
9	<del>40,050</del> <u>46,730</u>	<del>45,150</del> <u>52,680</u>
10	<del>40,500</del> <u>47,250</u>	<del>45,650</del> <u>53,260</u>
11	<del>40,950</del> <u>47,780</u>	<del>46,150</del> <u>53,840</u>
12	<del>41,400</del> <u>48,300</u>	<del>46,650</del> <u>54,430</u>
13	<del>41,850</del> <u>48,830</u>	<del>47,150</del> <u>55,010</u>
14	<del>42,300</del> <u>49,350</u>	<del>47,650</del> <u>55,590</u>
15	<del>42,750</del> <u>49,880</u>	<del>48,150</del> <u>56,180.</u>

SECTION 7. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and

Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

SECTION 8. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

SECTION 9. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the retention of teachers and providing appropriate compensation to them is of the utmost importance to the public peace, health, and safety of the state of Arkansas; that the funds designated to assist public school districts in retaining teachers as defined by Arkansas Code § 6-17-2402 should be made available immediately; and that this act is immediately necessary to provide a funding mechanism to provide immediate assistance to public school districts in meeting the minimum salary schedule established by Arkansas Code § 6-17-2403 and amended by this act and providing immediate raises to teachers as defined by Arkansas Code § 6-17-2402 in public school districts. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If this bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill;  
or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.