

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 23-0536.01 Alana Rosen x2606

HOUSE BILL 23-1207

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Weinberg and Hamrick, Hartsook, Joseph, Martinez, Velasco

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None), Will

House Committees
Education

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING STIPENDS FOR NATIONAL BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATORS.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

Current law requires the department of education (department) to award an annual stipend of \$1,600 to teachers, school counselors, principals, and school psychologists who hold national board certification and who are employed by a school district, board of cooperative services, charter school of a school district, or an institute charter school (local education provider). The bill extends the \$1,600 stipend to qualified librarians and school social workers who hold national board certification and who are employed by a local education provider.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

Current law allows the department to award an additional \$3,200 annual stipend to teachers, principals, school counselors, and school psychologists who are employed in a low-performing, high-needs school. The bill allows the department to also extend an additional \$3,200 stipend to librarians or school social workers who are employed in a low-performing, high-needs school. The additional \$3,200 stipend is also extended to teachers, librarians, school counselors, school psychologists, or school social workers (national board-certified educators) who are employed in a rural school district. The bill allows the department to extend an additional \$3,200 stipend to national board-certified educators who are employed as math teachers in any school.

If a national board-certified educator transfers employment from one low-performing, high-needs school or rural school district to another low-performing, high-needs school or rural school district, the educator remains eligible for the additional stipend. However, if a national board-certified educator leaves employment with a low-performing, high-needs school or rural school district, the educator is no longer eligible for the additional stipend.

If a national board-certified math teacher transfers schools as a math teacher, the educator remains eligible for the additional stipend. However, if a national board-certified educator who is a math teacher stops teaching math, the educator is no longer eligible for the additional stipend.

If there are insufficient funds, the department shall reduce the amount of each stipend by the same percentage that the deficit bears to the amount required to fully fund the total number of national board-certified educators who qualify for the stipend.

A national board-certified educator who is employed as a principal or an administrator in a school and maintains a national certification is eligible for a stipend.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-2-504, **amend** (1)
3 introductory portion, (1)(a), (1)(e), (2), and (4); **repeal** (1)(b); and **add**
4 (5), (6), (7), and (8) as follows:

5 **22-2-504. National certification compensation - study -**
6 **definitions - repeal.** (1) Beginning with the 2009-10 ~~school~~ BUDGET year
7 for teachers AND school counselors ~~and principals~~ who hold a
8 certification from the national board for professional teaching standards

1 and school counselors who hold a certification from the national board for
2 certified counselors, ~~and~~ beginning with the 2019-20 ~~school~~ BUDGET year
3 for nationally certified school psychologists who hold a certification from
4 the national association of school psychologists, AND BEGINNING WITH
5 THE 2023-24 BUDGET YEAR FOR LIBRARIANS WHO HOLD A CERTIFICATION
6 FROM THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS
7 AND NATIONALLY CERTIFIED SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS WHO HOLD A
8 CERTIFICATION FROM THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS,
9 collectively referred to in this section as "~~school professionals~~"
10 "NATIONAL BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATORS", the department ~~subject to~~
11 ~~available appropriations~~, shall award an annual stipend of one thousand
12 six hundred dollars to any ~~school professional~~ NATIONAL
13 BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATOR who is employed in a school district, a
14 program operated by a board of cooperative services, a charter school
15 authorized by a school district pursuant to part 1 of article 30.5 of this
16 title 22, or a charter school authorized by the state charter school institute
17 pursuant to part 5 of article 30.5 of this title 22. For any stipends that are
18 awarded, the department shall allocate the stipend money to the school
19 district that employs the ~~school professional~~ NATIONAL BOARD-CERTIFIED
20 EDUCATOR who is to receive the stipend, and the school district shall then
21 make payment directly to the eligible ~~school professional~~ NATIONAL
22 BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATOR. A school district may, at its discretion,
23 withhold any required employer retirement and medicare contributions
24 associated with the stipend pursuant to this section from the one thousand
25 six hundred dollar stipend amount. For any stipends that are awarded, the
26 stipend ~~shall be~~ IS:

27 (a) Payable on May 1, ~~2009~~ 2024, and each May 1 thereafter, for

1 ~~nationally certified teachers, school counselors, and principals~~ NATIONAL
2 BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATORS;

3 (b) ~~Payable on May 1, 2020, and each May 1 thereafter, for~~
4 ~~nationally certified school psychologists;~~

5 (e) In addition to, and not in lieu of, any existing compensation
6 being awarded at the local level to a ~~school professional~~ NATIONAL
7 BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATOR.

8 (2) (a) ~~Beginning with the 2009-10 school year for nationally~~
9 ~~certified teachers, school counselors, and principals, and beginning with~~
10 ~~the 2019-20 school year for nationally certified school psychologists,~~
11 ~~subject to available appropriations~~ ON OR BEFORE MAY 1, 2024, AND
12 EACH MAY 1 THEREAFTER, an additional annual stipend of three thousand
13 two hundred dollars ~~shall be~~ IS awarded to any ~~school professional~~
14 NATIONAL BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATOR who meets the criteria set forth
15 in subsection (1) of this section and who is employed as of May 1 in a
16 given school year in a low-performing, high-needs school ~~Subject to~~
17 ~~available appropriations, a school professional shall continue to receive~~
18 ~~the additional stipend award pursuant to this subsection (2) if the school~~
19 ~~professional remains employed in a school that was previously a~~
20 ~~low-performing, high-needs school but improved sufficiently to~~
21 ~~implement an improvement or performance plan pursuant to section~~
22 ~~22-11-210~~ OR RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR EMPLOYED AS A MATH
23 TEACHER IN A SCHOOL. IF THE NATIONAL BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATOR
24 QUALIFIES FOR THE STIPEND IN THIS SUBSECTION (2) BASED ON MORE THAN
25 ONE QUALIFICATION, THE EDUCATOR RECEIVES ONLY ONE ANNUAL
26 STIPEND OF THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS. The additional
27 stipend for a ~~school professional~~ NATIONAL BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATOR

1 is subject to the same restrictions and requirements as set forth in
2 subsection (1) of this section.

3 (b) IF A NATIONAL BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATOR TRANSFERS
4 EMPLOYMENT FROM ONE LOW-PERFORMING, HIGH-NEEDS SCHOOL OR
5 RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT TO ANOTHER LOW-PERFORMING, HIGH-NEEDS
6 SCHOOL OR RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, THE EDUCATOR REMAINS ELIGIBLE
7 FOR THE ADDITIONAL STIPEND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS
8 SECTION. IF A NATIONAL BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATOR LEAVES
9 EMPLOYMENT WITH A LOW-PERFORMING, HIGH-NEEDS SCHOOL OR RURAL
10 SCHOOL DISTRICT, THE EDUCATOR IS NO LONGER ELIGIBLE FOR THE
11 ADDITIONAL STIPEND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

12 (c) IF A NATIONAL BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATOR WHO TEACHES
13 MATH TRANSFERS FROM ONE SCHOOL TO ANOTHER AND CONTINUES TO
14 TEACH MATH, THE EDUCATOR REMAINS ELIGIBLE FOR THE ADDITIONAL
15 STIPEND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION. IF A NATIONAL
16 BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATOR STOPS TEACHING MATH IN A SCHOOL, THE
17 EDUCATOR IS NO LONGER ELIGIBLE FOR THE ADDITIONAL STIPEND
18 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

19 (4) ~~If insufficient funding is available to award a stipend pursuant~~
20 ~~to subsection (1) of this section to all school professionals stipends shall~~
21 ~~be awarded only to those school professionals who meet the criteria of~~
22 ~~subsection (1) of this section and who are employed in a low-performing,~~
23 ~~high-needs school~~ IF THERE ARE INSUFFICIENT FUNDS TO AWARD
24 STIPENDS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF EACH
25 STIPEND AWARDED BY THE SAME PERCENTAGE THAT THE DEFICIT BEARS
26 TO THE AMOUNT REQUIRED TO FULLY FUND THE TOTAL NUMBER OF
27 NATIONAL BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATORS WHO QUALIFY FOR THE STIPEND.

1 (5) A NATIONAL BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATOR WHO IS EMPLOYED
2 AS A PRINCIPAL OR AN ADMINISTRATOR IN A SCHOOL AND MAINTAINS A
3 NATIONAL CERTIFICATION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION
4 IS ELIGIBLE FOR A STIPEND PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

5 (6) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROMOTE THE STIPEND PROGRAM
6 AND WORK WITH RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS TO NOTIFY AND ENCOURAGE
7 NATIONAL BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATORS TO APPLY FOR STIPENDS
8 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

9 (7) ON OR BEFORE MAY 1, 2024, AND EVERY MAY 1 THEREAFTER,
10 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE AT LEAST TWO MILLION ONE
11 HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE
12 DEPARTMENT FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

13 (8) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
14 REQUIRES, "RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT IN
15 COLORADO THAT THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES IS RURAL, BASED ON THE
16 GEOGRAPHIC SIZE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE DISTANCE OF THE
17 SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM THE NEAREST LARGE, URBANIZED AREA, AND THE
18 TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT IS SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED STUDENTS
19 OR FEWER STUDENTS.

20 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
21 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
22 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
23 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
24 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
25 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
26 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in

1 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
2 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.