

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

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

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
Appropriations

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 year for~~
7 ~~teachers, school counselors, and principals who hold a certification from~~
8 ~~the national board for professional teaching standards, and school~~

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

24 (a) Payable on ~~May 1, 2009~~ JUNE 1, 2024, and each ~~May 1~~ JUNE
25 1 thereafter, for ~~nationally certified teachers, school counselors, and~~
26 ~~principals~~ NATIONAL BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATORS;

27 (b) ~~Payable on May 1, 2020, and each May 1 thereafter, for~~

1 ~~nationally certified school psychologists;~~

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

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

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

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

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

1 NATIONAL BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATORS WHO QUALIFY FOR THE STIPEND.

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

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

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

14 (8) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
15 REQUIRES:

16 (a) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT; A
17 CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART
18 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22; A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY
19 THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE
20 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22; OR A SCHOOL OPERATED BY A BOARD OF
21 COOPERATIVE SERVICES.

22 (b) "NATIONAL BOARD-CERTIFIED EDUCATOR" MEANS:

23 (I) BEGINNING WITH THE 2009-10 BUDGET YEAR, TEACHERS AND
24 SCHOOL COUNSELORS WHO HOLD A CERTIFICATION FROM THE NATIONAL
25 BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS AND SCHOOL
26 COUNSELORS WHO HOLD A CERTIFICATION FROM THE NATIONAL BOARD
27 FOR CERTIFIED COUNSELORS;

1 (II) BEGINNING WITH THE 2019-20 BUDGET YEAR, NATIONALLY
2 CERTIFIED SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS WHO HOLD A CERTIFICATION FROM THE
3 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS; AND

4 (III) BEGINNING WITH THE 2023-24 BUDGET YEAR, LIBRARIANS
5 WHO HOLD A CERTIFICATION FROM THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR
6 PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS AND NATIONALLY CERTIFIED
7 SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS WHO HOLD A CERTIFICATION FROM THE
8 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS OR THE SCHOOL SOCIAL
9 WORK ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA.

10 (c) "RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT IN
11 COLORADO THAT THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES IS RURAL, BASED ON THE
12 GEOGRAPHIC SIZE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE DISTANCE OF THE
13 SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM THE NEAREST LARGE, URBANIZED AREA, AND THE
14 TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT IS SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED STUDENTS
15 OR FEWER.

16 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
17 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
18 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
19 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
20 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
21 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
22 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
23 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
24 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.