

SENATE BILL No. 334

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-6.1-7.5.

Synopsis: Teacher certification incentives. Specifies a goal that by the year 2020 there will be at least one teacher who is certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (national board) in every public school in Indiana. Establishes the teachers' national board certification incentive fund for purposes of: (1) funding stipends of \$200 per day for two days for teachers preparing for national board certification; (2) reimbursing 75% of the national board certification fee; (3) funding stipends for national board certified teachers who serve as mentors to other teachers; (4) reimbursing school corporations for the cost of paying teachers who have attained national board certification as of July 1, 2001, or thereafter an annual salary supplement of \$2,000 for the life of the certificate; and (5) reimbursing school corporations for the cost of persons who serve as substitute teachers for national board certification candidates. Requires a school corporation to allow a teacher pursuing national board certification at least five days of released time during the school year.

Effective: July 1, 2001.

Rogers

January 16, 2001, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.

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First Regular Session 112th General Assembly (2001)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2000 General Assembly.

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SENATE BILL No. 334



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-6.1-7.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2001]:

4 **Chapter 7.5. National Board Certification Incentives**

5 **Sec. 1. The general assembly hereby establishes a goal that by**
6 **the year 2020 there will be at least one (1) national board certified**
7 **teacher in every public school in Indiana.**

8 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "department" refers to the**
9 **department of education established by IC 20-1-1.1-2.**

10 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the teachers'**
11 **national board certification incentive fund established by section**
12 **7 of this chapter.**

13 **Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "mentor" means a highly skilled,**
14 **experienced teacher who provides systematic and ongoing support**
15 **and assistance to other teachers in a school or school corporation**
16 **to help them improve their teaching skills and practices.**

17 **Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "national board" refers to the**



1 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, a
 2 nonpartisan, independent, and nonprofit board composed of
 3 teachers and others that:

- 4 (1) has developed a set of high and rigorous standards for
 5 accomplished teachers; and
 6 (2) operates a national voluntary system to assess and certify
 7 teachers who meet the board's standards.

8 Sec. 6. As used in this chapter, "national board certification"
 9 means a demonstration by an experienced teacher of the teacher's
 10 teaching practice as measured against high and rigorous standards
 11 through a comprehensive assessment process administered by the
 12 national board.

13 Sec. 7. (a) The teachers' national board certification incentive
 14 fund is established for purposes of:

- 15 (1) funding stipends under section 8 of this chapter for
 16 teachers to prepare for certification by the national board;
 17 (2) reimbursing a portion of the certification fee under section
 18 12 of this chapter to each teacher who is awarded national
 19 board certification;
 20 (3) funding stipends under section 13 of this chapter for
 21 national board certified teachers who serve as mentors to
 22 other teachers within the school corporation;
 23 (4) reimbursing school corporations under section 14 of this
 24 chapter for salary supplements paid to national board
 25 certified teachers; and
 26 (5) reimbursing school corporations under section 15 of this
 27 chapter for persons who serve as substitute teachers for
 28 national board certification candidates.

29 (b) The fund shall be administered by the department.

30 (c) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from
 31 money in the fund. The treasurer of state shall invest the money in
 32 the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund
 33 in the same manner as other public money may be invested.
 34 Interest that accrues from these investments shall be deposited in
 35 the fund.

36 (d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not
 37 revert to the state general fund.

38 Sec. 8. A teacher who is:

- 39 (1) employed by a school corporation; and
 40 (2) pursuing national board certification;

41 is entitled to receive from the fund a stipend of two hundred dollars
 42 (\$200) per day for two (2) days beyond the school contract year to

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1 prepare for the certification assessments.

2 **Sec. 9.** A school corporation shall allow at least five (5) days of
3 released time during the school year for a teacher pursuing
4 national board certification.

5 **Sec. 10.** A school corporation may, at its own expense, provide
6 additional released time for teachers pursuing national board
7 certification.

8 **Sec. 11.** If a teacher does not successfully complete all
9 assessments required for national board certification during a
10 school year, the provisions in this chapter may be applied to a
11 second school year for that teacher.

12 **Sec. 12.** A teacher who attains national board certification after
13 June 30, 2001, shall be reimbursed from the fund for seventy-five
14 percent (75%) of the certification fee for the initial ten (10) year
15 certificate. Fees for renewal of the national board certificate shall
16 be at the teacher's expense.

17 **Sec. 13. (a)** A national board certified teacher is entitled to
18 receive a stipend from the fund in addition to the teacher's annual
19 compensation for serving as a mentor to teachers within the
20 teacher's school or school corporation in a mentoring program
21 approved by the department.

22 **(b)** The department shall adopt rules under which a school
23 corporation may establish a mentoring program involving national
24 board certified teachers. The rules must specify the conditions for
25 the mentoring program as well as the amount of the stipend that
26 will be provided to a teacher serving as a mentor.

27 **Sec. 14. (a)** After June 30, 2001, a school corporation shall
28 provide a public school teacher who has attained certification from
29 the national board as of July 1, 2001, or thereafter with an annual
30 national board certification salary supplement of two thousand
31 dollars (\$2,000) for the life of the certificate. The salary
32 supplement shall be added to the teacher's base salary and shall be
33 considered in the calculation for contributions to the Indiana state
34 teachers' retirement fund.

35 **(b)** If a nationally certified teacher is no longer employed as a
36 classroom teacher or a teacher mentor in the field of the teacher's
37 national certification, the salary supplement under this section
38 shall cease.

39 **(c)** A school corporation is entitled to reimbursement from the
40 fund for salary supplements paid by the school corporation under
41 this section.

42 **Sec. 15.** A school corporation is entitled to reimbursement from

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1 **the fund for substitute teacher pay for persons who serve as**
2 **substitute teachers for national board certification candidates. The**
3 **reimbursement shall be based on the school corporation's salary**
4 **schedule for substitute teachers.**

5 **Sec. 16. The department shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to**
6 **carry out this chapter.**

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