

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2019 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 327

FISCAL
NOTE

BY SENATORS CARMICHAEL (MR. PRESIDENT) AND PREZIOSO

(BY REQUEST OF THE EXECUTIVE)

[Introduced January 16, 2019; Referred

to the Committee on Education; and then to the Committee
on Finance]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
2 designated §18A-4-2d, relating to incentives for mathematics teachers; acknowledging the
3 importance of math instruction and the lack of certified educators to provide such
4 instruction; requiring the Department of Education to develop or approve specialized
5 mathematics courses; directing that the specialized mathematics courses be available to
6 classroom teachers; directing that classroom teachers who complete the specialized
7 mathematics courses receive a one-time \$2,000 payment; clarifying that teachers
8 completing the specialized math courses after May 1 will receive the one-time \$2,000
9 payment in the following fiscal year; directing that the payment be made from the
10 Mathematics Incentive Program line item; clarifying that payment is contingent upon
11 legislative appropriations; directing the Department of Education to request a
12 supplemental appropriation when the Mathematics Incentive Program line item is
13 insufficient and how funds are to be distributed in instances when funds are insufficient to
14 compensate all applicable teachers; clarifying that the payment is not to be counted as
15 part of the teacher's final average salary for the purpose of calculating retirement;
16 clarifying that no retirement contribution will be withheld from the incentive; limiting the
17 payment to classroom teachers providing math instruction in the teacher's certified area
18 of study for at least 60 percent of the time the teacher is providing instruction; and
19 exempting elementary teachers from the 60 percent limitation.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 4. SALARIES, WAGES AND OTHER BENEFITS.

§18A-4-2d. Mathematics teacher incentive.

1 (a) The Legislature recognizes that receiving quality math instruction is vital to a student's
2 post-secondary success and that that there is a shortage of certified math teachers to provide
3 such instruction.

4 (b) To ensure that students are receiving the appropriate level of math instruction that will

5 enable post-secondary success, the Department of Education shall develop or approve
6 specialized mathematics courses and make the courses available to classroom teachers.

7 (c) A classroom teacher who completes a specialized mathematics course established or
8 approved pursuant to this section by May 1st of the fiscal year shall be paid a one-time salary
9 supplement of \$2,000 from the Mathematics Incentive Program line item established for the
10 Department of Education for this purpose, subject to appropriation by the Legislature. If the
11 appropriations to the Department of Education for this purpose are insufficient to compensate all
12 applicable teachers, the Department of Education shall request a supplemental appropriation in
13 an amount sufficient to compensate all such teachers. Additionally, if funds are still insufficient to
14 compensate all applicable teachers, each applicable teacher shall receive their proportionate
15 share of the funding available for the year. This salary supplement may not be counted as part of
16 the teacher's average final salary for the purpose of calculating retirement and no retirement
17 contribution will be withheld from the payment.

18 (d) A classroom teacher who completes the mathematics enrichment course established
19 or approved by the Department of Education after May 1st of the fiscal year shall be paid the one-
20 time salary supplement described in subsection (a) of this section during the subsequent fiscal
21 year, subject to appropriation by the Legislature.

22 (e) The salary supplement provided for in this section may only be paid to a classroom
23 teacher providing math instruction in the teacher's certified area of study for at least 60 percent
24 of time the teacher is providing instruction to students: *Provided*, This subsection does not apply
25 to classroom teachers in a elementary setting delivering instruction in mathematics as well as
26 other core content subjects.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide economic incentives for mathematics teachers in public schools who complete a specialized mathematics course approved by the Department of Education.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.