

AN ACT

relating to the award of stipends to nationally certified classroom teachers under the educator excellence awards program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 21.705, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 21.705. AWARD PAYMENTS. A school district must use at least 60 percent of grant funds awarded to the district under this subchapter to directly award classroom teachers who effectively improve student achievement as determined by meaningful, objective measures. The remaining funds must be used only to:

(1) provide stipends to effective mentors or teacher coaches;

(2) provide stipends to classroom teachers who are certified in a subject that is designated by the commissioner as commonly experiencing a critical shortage of teachers;

(3) provide stipends to classroom teachers who are certified under Subchapter B in the main subject area in which they teach;

(4) provide stipends to classroom teachers with proven records of success for improving student performance who are assigned to campuses at which the district has experienced difficulty assigning or retaining teachers;

(5) provide stipends to classroom teachers who hold

1 postgraduate degrees;

2 (6) provide stipends to classroom teachers who have  
3 obtained national board certification through the National Board  
4 for Professional Teaching Standards;

5 (7) provide awards to principals who effectively  
6 increase student performance as determined by objective measures;

7 (8) [~~(7)~~] provide awards to other campus employees who  
8 demonstrate excellence; or

9 (9) [~~(8)~~] implement the components of a Teacher  
10 Advancement Program (TAP), including:

11 (A) an instructionally focused accountability  
12 system; and

13 (B) the adjustment of teaching schedules to  
14 permit ongoing applied professional growth.

15 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2007-2008  
16 school year.

17 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2646 was passed by the House on May 11, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 137, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2646 was passed by the Senate on May 23, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor