

1-1 By: Rose (Senate Sponsor - Watson) H.B. No. 2646
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 14, 2007;
1-3 May 15, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Education; May 18, 2007, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 18, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the award of stipends to nationally certified classroom
1-9 teachers under the educator excellence awards program.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 21.705, Education Code, is amended to
1-12 read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 21.705. AWARD PAYMENTS. A school district must use at
1-14 least 60 percent of grant funds awarded to the district under this
1-15 subchapter to directly award classroom teachers who effectively
1-16 improve student achievement as determined by meaningful, objective
1-17 measures. The remaining funds must be used only to:

1-18 (1) provide stipends to effective mentors or teacher
1-19 coaches;

1-20 (2) provide stipends to classroom teachers who are
1-21 certified in a subject that is designated by the commissioner as
1-22 commonly experiencing a critical shortage of teachers;

1-23 (3) provide stipends to classroom teachers who are
1-24 certified under Subchapter B in the main subject area in which they
1-25 teach;

1-26 (4) provide stipends to classroom teachers with proven
1-27 records of success for improving student performance who are
1-28 assigned to campuses at which the district has experienced
1-29 difficulty assigning or retaining teachers;

1-30 (5) provide stipends to classroom teachers who hold
1-31 postgraduate degrees;

1-32 (6) provide stipends to classroom teachers who have
1-33 obtained national board certification through the National Board
1-34 for Professional Teaching Standards;

1-35 (7) provide awards to principals who effectively
1-36 increase student performance as determined by objective measures;

1-37 (8) [~~(7)~~] provide awards to other campus employees who
1-38 demonstrate excellence; or

1-39 (9) [~~(8)~~] implement the components of a Teacher
1-40 Advancement Program (TAP), including:

1-41 (A) an instructionally focused accountability
1-42 system; and

1-43 (B) the adjustment of teaching schedules to
1-44 permit ongoing applied professional growth.

1-45 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2007-2008
1-46 school year.

1-47 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-48 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-49 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-50 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-51 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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