

By: Vaught

H.B. No. 3806

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the distribution of funds at the local level under the
3 awards for student achievement program and the educator excellence
4 awards program.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 21.656(a), Education Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (a) An eligible campus must use a portion [~~75 percent~~] of a
9 grant award received under Section 21.655 to provide incentive
10 payments to classroom teachers assigned to the campus. To the
11 extent practicable, the campus shall pay a classroom teacher an
12 incentive payment in an amount of not less than \$3,000 or more than
13 \$10,000.

14 SECTION 2. Section 21.657(a), Education Code, is amended to
15 read as follows:

16 (a) An eligible campus must use any portion [~~25 percent~~] of
17 a grant award received under Section 21.655 that is not used to
18 provide incentive payments to classroom teachers under Section
19 21.656 for:

20 (1) incentive payments to campus employees other than
21 classroom teachers, such as principals, assistant principals,
22 teachers who are not eligible for an incentive payment under
23 Section 21.656, counselors, speech therapists, instructional
24 coaches, teacher's aides, nurses, librarians, members of the

1 custodial staff, or other campus employees who have contributed to
2 improved student achievement;

3 (2) professional development for classroom teachers
4 who:

5 (A) do not receive an incentive payment under
6 Section 21.656; and

7 (B) would benefit from professional development
8 to develop or enhance skills and behaviors described under Section
9 21.656(b);

10 (3) reimbursement or funding for a professional
11 development activity that directly contributes to improved
12 classroom instruction and student achievement;

13 (4) signing bonuses for classroom teachers new to the
14 campus who are teaching subjects that have been designated by the
15 commissioner as historically experiencing a critical shortage of
16 teachers;

17 (5) a teacher mentoring program that meets the
18 requirements of Section 21.458;

19 (6) an activity that supports new teacher induction
20 programs, including:

21 (A) common planning time and collaboration;

22 (B) a professional development activity; and

23 (C) standards-based evaluations;

24 (7) an activity that supports common planning time and
25 curriculum development;

26 (8) a program that has been proven to recruit and
27 retain highly effective teachers;

1 (9) an activity that creates or furthers the goals of
2 an incentive system designed to improve student achievement;

3 (10) stipends for teachers who participate in an
4 after-school or Saturday program that directly contributes to
5 improved classroom instruction and student achievement;

6 (11) stipends for teachers who are certified under
7 Subchapter B in the main subject area in which they teach;

8 (12) stipends for teachers who hold a postgraduate
9 degree;

10 (13) additional funding for feeder campuses that,
11 because they are not assigned performance ratings under Chapter 39,
12 do not qualify to participate in the program, such as campuses that
13 serve kindergarten through grade two, to implement an activity
14 described by this section; and

15 (14) any other program that directly contributes to
16 improved student achievement.

17 SECTION 3. Section 21.705, Education Code, is amended to
18 read as follows:

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

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

27 (2) provide stipends to classroom teachers who are

1 certified in a subject that is designated by the commissioner as
2 commonly experiencing a critical shortage of teachers;

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

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

10 (5) provide stipends to classroom teachers who hold
11 postgraduate degrees;

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

14 (7) provide awards to other campus employees who
15 demonstrate excellence; or

16 (8) implement the components of a Teacher Advancement
17 Program (TAP), including:

18 (A) an instructionally focused accountability
19 system; and

20 (B) the adjustment of teaching schedules to
21 permit ongoing applied professional growth.

22 SECTION 4. This Act applies beginning with the 2007-2008
23 school year.

24 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
25 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
26 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
27 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

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1 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.