

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 181

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the salary and retirement benefits paid to certain teachers employed by or retired from public schools.

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

ARTICLE 1. CLASSROOM TEACHER SALARIES

SECTION 1.01. Section 21.402, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsections (c-2), (c-3), and (d) and amending Subsection (g) to read as follows:

(c-2) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), for the 2017-2018 school year, a classroom teacher is entitled to a monthly salary that is at least equal to the sum of:

(1) the monthly salary the teacher would have received for the 2017-2018 school year under the district's salary schedule for the 2016-2017 school year, if that schedule had been in effect for the 2017-2018 school year, including any local supplement and any money representing a career ladder supplement the teacher would have received in the 2017-2018 school year; and

(2) \$100.

(c-3) Subsection (c-2) and this subsection expire September 1, 2018.

(d) A classroom teacher employed by a school district in the 2017-2018 school year is, as long as the teacher is employed by the same district, entitled to a salary that is at least equal to the salary the teacher received for the 2017-2018 school year.

1 (g) The commissioner may adopt rules to govern the  
2 application of this section, including rules that:

3 (1) require the payment of a minimum salary under this  
4 section to a person employed in more than one capacity for which a  
5 minimum salary is provided and whose combined employment in those  
6 capacities constitutes full-time employment; and

7 (2) specify the credentials a person must hold to be  
8 considered a [~~speech pathologist or~~] school nurse under this  
9 section.

10 SECTION 1.02. Section 42.2513(a), Education Code, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (a) A school district, including a school district that is  
13 otherwise ineligible for state aid under this chapter, is entitled  
14 to state aid in an amount equal to the sum of:

15 (1) the product of \$500 multiplied by the number of  
16 full-time district employees, other than administrators or  
17 employees subject to the minimum salary schedule under Section  
18 21.402; ~~and~~

19 (2) the product of \$1,000 multiplied by the number of  
20 classroom teachers employed by the district; and

21 (3) the product of \$250 multiplied by the number of  
22 part-time district employees, other than administrators.

23 SECTION 1.03. Section 21.402(c-1), Education Code, is  
24 repealed.

25 SECTION 1.04. This article applies beginning with the  
26 2017-2018 school year.

ARTICLE 2. TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT

SECTION 2.01. Subchapter H, Chapter 824, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 824.703 to read as follows:

Sec. 824.703. ADDITIONAL COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT. (a) Notwithstanding Section 824.702, the retirement system shall make a one-time cost-of-living adjustment of \$1,000 payable to annuitants receiving a monthly death or retirement benefit annuity, as provided by this section.

(b) Subject to Subsections (c) and (d), to be eligible for the adjustment, a person must be, on the effective date of the adjustment and disregarding any forfeiture of benefits under Section 824.601, an annuitant eligible to receive:

(1) a standard service or disability retirement annuity payment;

(2) an optional service or disability retirement annuity payment as either a retiree or beneficiary;

(3) an annuity payment under Section 824.402(a)(3) or (4);

(4) an annuity payment under Section 824.502; or

(5) an alternate payee annuity payment under Section 804.005.

(c) If the annuitant:

(1) is a retiree or is a beneficiary under an optional retirement payment plan, to be eligible for the adjustment under this section:

(A) the annuitant must be living on the effective date of the adjustment; and

1           (B) the effective date of the retirement of the  
2 member of the retirement system must have been after August 31,  
3 2004, and on or before June 30, 2017;

4           (2) is a beneficiary under Section 824.402(a)(3) or  
5 (4) or 824.502, to be eligible for the adjustment:

6           (A) the annuitant must be living on the effective  
7 date of the adjustment; and

8           (B) the date of death of the member of the  
9 retirement system must have been after August 31, 2004, and on or  
10 before June 30, 2017; or

11           (3) is an alternate payee under Section 804.005, the  
12 annuitant is eligible for the adjustment only if the effective date  
13 of the election to receive the annuity payment was after August 31,  
14 2004, and on or before June 30, 2017.

15           (d) An adjustment made under this section does not apply to  
16 payments under:

17           (1) Section 824.203(d), relating to retirees who  
18 receive a standard service retirement annuity in an amount fixed by  
19 statute;

20           (2) Section 824.304(a), relating to disability  
21 retirees with less than 10 years of service credit;

22           (3) Section 824.304(b)(2), relating to disability  
23 retirees who receive a disability annuity in an amount fixed by  
24 statute;

25           (4) Section 824.404(a), relating to active member  
26 survivor beneficiaries who receive a survivor annuity in an amount  
27 fixed by statute;

