

By: Martinez

H.B. No. 218

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the salary paid to certain professional employees of public schools.

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

SECTION 1. Section 21.402(a), Education Code, as effective September 1, 2017, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (e-1) or (f), a school district must pay each classroom teacher, full-time librarian, full-time school counselor certified under Subchapter B, or full-time school nurse not less than the minimum monthly salary~~[based on the employee's level of experience in addition to other factors, as determined by commissioner rule,~~] determined as provided by Subsection (b) [the following formula:

~~[MS - SF x FS~~

~~[where:~~

~~["MS" is the minimum monthly salary,~~

~~["SF" is the applicable salary factor specified by Subsection (c), and~~

~~["FS" is the amount, as determined by the commissioner under Subsection (b), of the basic allotment as provided by Section 42.101(a) or (b) for a school district with a maintenance and operations tax rate at least equal to the state maximum compressed tax rate, as defined by Section 42.101(a)].~~

SECTION 2. Sections 21.402(b), (c-1), and (e-1), Education

1 Code, are amended to read as follows:

2 (b) The commissioner shall adopt rules to establish a method
 3 for annually setting a salary schedule for classroom teachers,
 4 full-time librarians, full-time school counselors certified under
 5 Subchapter B, and full-time school nurses based on the employee's
 6 level of experience. The commissioner's method must provide a
 7 salary level for each year of experience from 0 years through 20
 8 years. The commissioner shall ensure that the salary schedule is
 9 consistent with the national average salary, based on experience,
 10 for those employees as determined by statistics gathered by the
 11 National Center for Education Statistics or a similar independent
 12 education-oriented institution. Not later than June 1 of each
 13 year, the commissioner shall determine, based on the salary
 14 schedule, the minimum monthly salary for each classroom teacher,
 15 full-time librarian, full-time school counselor certified under
 16 Subchapter B, and full-time school nurse for the following school
 17 year [~~the basic allotment and resulting monthly salaries to be paid~~
 18 ~~by school districts as provided by Subsection (a)].~~

19 (c-1) Notwithstanding Subsections (a) and (b), each school
 20 district shall pay a monthly salary to each classroom teacher,
 21 full-time speech pathologist, full-time librarian, full-time
 22 school counselor certified under Subchapter B, and full-time school
 23 nurse that is at least equal to the following monthly salary or the
 24 monthly salary determined by the commissioner under Subsection
 25 [~~Subsections (a) and~~] (b), whichever is greater:

26	Years of	Monthly
27	Experience	Salary

1	0	2,732
2	1	2,791
3	2	2,849
4	3	2,908
5	4	3,032
6	5	3,156
7	6	3,280
8	7	3,395
9	8	3,504
10	9	3,607
11	10	3,704
12	11	3,796
13	12	3,884
14	13	3,965
15	14	4,043
16	15	4,116
17	16	4,186
18	17	4,251
19	18	4,313
20	19	4,372
21	20 & Over	4,427

22 (e-1) If the minimum monthly salary determined under
 23 Subsection (b) [~~(a)~~] for a particular level of experience is less
 24 than the minimum monthly salary for that level of experience in the
 25 preceding year, the minimum monthly salary is the minimum monthly
 26 salary for the preceding year.

27 SECTION 3. Subchapter E, Chapter 42, Education Code, is

1 amended by adding Section 42.2520 to read as follows:

2 Sec. 42.2520. ADDITIONAL STATE AID OR CREDIT AGAINST COST
3 OF ATTENDANCE CREDITS FOR PROFESSIONAL STAFF SALARIES. (a) For
4 each school year, a school district, including a school district
5 that is otherwise ineligible for state aid under this chapter, is
6 entitled to state aid in an amount, as determined by the
7 commissioner, equal to the difference between the district's salary
8 cost under Section 21.402, as amended by __.B. __, Acts of the 85th
9 Legislature, 1st Called Session, 2017, for all classroom teachers,
10 full-time librarians, full-time school counselors certified under
11 Subchapter B, Chapter 21, and full-time school nurses employed by
12 the district and an amount equal to what the district's salary costs
13 would have been for that school year under Section 21.402, as it
14 existed before amendment by __.B. __, Acts of the 85th
15 Legislature, 1st Called Session, 2017.

16 (b) A school district that is required to take action under
17 Chapter 41 to reduce its wealth per student to the equalized wealth
18 level is entitled to a credit, in the amount of state aid to which
19 the district is entitled under this section, against the total
20 amount required under Section 41.093 for the district to purchase
21 attendance credits.

22 (c) A determination by the commissioner under this section
23 is final and may not be appealed.

24 (d) The commissioner may adopt rules to implement this
25 section.

26 SECTION 4. Section 21.402(c), Education Code, is repealed.

27 SECTION 5. Not later than March 1, 2018, the commissioner of

1 education shall adopt rules to establish a method for annually
2 setting a salary schedule as provided by Section 21.402(b),
3 Education Code, as amended by this Act.

4 SECTION 6. This Act applies beginning with the 2018-2019
5 school year.

6 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017, if it
7 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each
8 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.
9 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for effect on that
10 date, this Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the
11 legislative session.