



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2012

Legislative Document

No. 1781

S.P. 618

In Senate, January 19, 2012

An Act To Restructure the National Board Certification Program for Teachers

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Joseph G. Carleton Jr.

JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator ALFOND of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative RICHARDSON of Carmel and
Senators: JACKSON of Aroostook, PATRICK of Oxford, Representatives: CAIN of Orono,
LOVEJOY of Portland, McCLELLAN of Raymond, NELSON of Falmouth, RANKIN of
Hiram, TUTTLE of Sanford.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13013-A**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 58, §3 and c. 240, Pt.
3 D, §§1 and 2, is further amended to read:

4 **§13013-A. Salary supplements for national board-certified teachers**

5 **1. Department of Education salary supplement.** Notwithstanding any other
6 provision of law, the Department of Education shall provide a public school teacher who
7 has attained certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, or
8 its successor organization, as of July 1, ~~2006~~ 2012 or thereafter with an annual national
9 board certification salary supplement of ~~\$3,000~~ \$2,000 for the life of the certificate. The
10 salary ~~supplement~~ supplements under this subsection and subsection 1-A must be added
11 to the teacher's base salary and must be considered in the calculation for contributions to
12 the Maine Public Employees Retirement System. If a nationally certified teacher
13 becomes no longer employed as a classroom teacher in the field of that teacher's national
14 certification, the ~~supplement ceases~~ supplements cease.

15 **1-A. School administrative unit salary supplement.** Beginning with the 2012-
16 2013 school year, a school administrative unit shall provide an additional annual national
17 board certification salary supplement of at least \$1,000 for national board-certified
18 teachers who are eligible to receive the salary supplement pursuant to subsection 1.
19 School administrative units must provide this additional annual national board
20 certification salary supplement from the state subsidy allocated to the school
21 administrative unit pursuant to chapter 606-B.

22 **2. Local filing; certification.** On or before October 15th annually, the
23 superintendent of schools of a school administrative unit or the chief administrative
24 officer of a career and technical education region shall file with the commissioner a
25 certified list of national board-certified teachers eligible to receive the salary ~~supplement~~
26 supplements pursuant to ~~subsection~~ subsections 1 and 1-A.

27 **3. Payment.** The department and the school administrative units shall provide the
28 salary ~~supplement~~ supplements under this section to eligible teachers no later than
29 February 15th of each year.

30 **4. Expend funds.** A school administrative unit may expend funds received from the
31 department through the salary ~~supplement~~ supplements under ~~subsection 1~~ this section
32 without calling for a special meeting of the local legislative body.

33 **5. Payment of application fees.** Beginning in school year 2012-2013, up to 10% of
34 the per-pupil amount for professional development calculated pursuant to section 15680
35 and allocated to a school administrative unit must be awarded to provide payment of the
36 application fees for teachers who are seeking to attain certification from the National
37 Board for Professional Teaching Standards, or its successor organization, during the year
38 of allocation. If a school administrative unit fails to award 10% of the per-pupil amount
39 for professional development allocated to the school administrative unit to provide
40 payment of the application fees pursuant to this subsection within the year of allocation,
41 the commissioner may withhold from the professional development allocation to the

1 school administrative unit calculated pursuant to section 15680 for the subsequent school
2 year that amount of the professional development allocation that the school
3 administrative unit failed to provide for payment of application fees unless the
4 commissioner determines that the school administrative unit made a good faith effort to
5 promote the availability of professional development funds to pay the application fees for
6 teachers interested in attaining national board certification.

7

SUMMARY

8 This bill restructures the incentive established for teachers who attain certification
9 from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. The bill provides that,
10 beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, the payment of the \$3,000 annual salary
11 supplement awarded to national board-certified teachers must be provided with funds
12 from the Department of Education and the state subsidy allocated to the school
13 administrative unit that employs the teacher. The bill also establishes an incentive to
14 encourage teachers to apply for national board certification. The bill provides that,
15 beginning with school year 2012-2013, up to 10% of the per-pupil amount for
16 professional development allocated to a school administrative unit must be awarded to
17 provide payment of the application fees for teachers employed by the school
18 administrative unit who apply for national board certification during the year of
19 allocation. If a school administrative unit fails to use the full 10% of the per-pupil
20 amount to pay for application fees, the Commissioner of Education may withhold from
21 the next year's allocation the unused amount.