



BILL and AMENDMENT SUMMARY

Teacher Salary Integration SF 445

Status of Bill: House Calendar
Committee: Education: 12-9
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Background

The State of Iowa took its initial extraordinary steps to improve teacher salaries in 1987 with the creation of the Educational Excellence Program, which supplemented funding provided through the school aid formula. Later another initiative was added in 2001, the Student Achievement and Teacher Quality, which set the state on the course to bring teacher salaries 25th nationally. Each initiative had a different set of rules and many school districts distributed the funds to teachers in different methods and approved different salary schedules based on each initiative. In 2008, the Legislature approved legislation that will roll these separate funding streams into the school aid formula starting with FY 2010. Putting these programs into the school aid formula create one funding stream for each of these initiatives. SF 445 takes the steps to consolidate the salary schedules for teachers.

Summary

SF 445, as passed by the Senate on a vote of 30 – 16, will integrate all permanent, regular teacher salaries into one salary schedule. Currently, teacher salaries consist of numerous items such as regular salary, education excellence, teacher quality mandated minimums, and the teacher compensation allocation. Administration of salaries includes separate accountability for each item, separate bargaining, and usually separate checks.

This legislation provides that all teacher salary funds are integrated into one salary schedule for each school district beginning July 1, 2010, fiscal year 2011. This includes regular salary, education excellence, and the teacher compensation allocations. The integration is possible because the salary funds have been rolled into the school aid formula. Each school district and area education agency is required to certify annually to the Department of Education that the funding received for teacher compensation was spent on salaries for qualified teachers. If school district or AEA is organized under Chapter 20, then the creation of a new salary schedule will be negotiated (this is current practice). If the school district or AEA does not have a bargaining unit, the board of directors will decide (current law). The bill requires that salaries be distributed throughout the year.

Beginning July 1, 2009 (fiscal year 2010), salary is bargained and distributed just like it has been. If the school district or AEA does not have a bargaining unit, the board of directors will decide (current law).

AMENDMENT SUMMARY

H-1332 by Dolecheck

Includes health benefits as well as the salary schedule and requires the school district or area education agency to create a health benefits schedule, subject to the scope of negotiations in section 20.9, which details the dollar amounts spent on health benefits costs by the school district or area education agency for each licensed employee.

H-1364 to H-1332 by Horbach

Continues the funding in the amount of \$100,000 for the Sac and Fox Indian settlement.

H-1365to H-1322 by Struyk and Pettengill

Continues the funding in the amount of \$94,600 to the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School and the Iowa School for the Deaf.

H-1366 by Horbach

Continues the funding in the amount of \$100,000 for the Sac and Fox Indian settlement.

H-1367 by Pettengill and Struyk

Continues the funding in the amount of \$94,600 to the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School and the Iowa School for the Deaf.