
Detailed Fiscal Analysis

National Board stipends

Under current law, Ohio pays each full-time classroom teacher who obtains certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards an annual stipend of \$2,500 for the duration of the teacher's ten-year initial certification period. In FY 2009, Am. Sub. H.B. 119 of the 127th General Assembly appropriates about \$9.0 million for these stipends. The bill limits eligibility for stipends that are awarded to teachers for the first time after July 1, 2008 to teachers who are either employed in academic watch or academic emergency buildings or teach science, technology, engineering, or math in any of grades 9 through 12. Therefore, beginning in FY 2009, the bill may reduce the number of teachers who are eligible to receive the \$2,500 stipend. As a result, the state may experience a decrease in expenditures on stipends in FY 2009 and future years.

According to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, 2,757 Ohio teachers have achieved National Board certification. In each of the last three years, an average of 134 Ohio teachers achieved certification for the first time.

Wage rate differentials

The bill permits school districts, educational service centers, and county MR/DD boards to adopt a policy of paying additional wages above the entity's adopted teacher salary schedule for teachers who teach certain subjects or certain grade levels. Adoption of such a policy may assist schools in attracting teachers in certain areas, but will also likely increase personnel costs.

Collective bargaining

The bill removes wage rate differential policies as described above as well as the length of the school day and the length of the school year from the issues that are subject to collective bargaining. The fiscal impact of this provision will depend on the resultant contracts negotiated between schools and school employees.

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