

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; CLARIFYING THAT COUNSELORS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR LEVEL THREE LICENSURE SALARIES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 22-10A-11 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003, Chapter 153, Section 42, as amended) is amended to read:

"22-10A-11. LEVEL THREE LICENSURE--TRACKS FOR TEACHERS, COUNSELORS AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS.--

A. A level three-A license is a nine-year license granted to a teacher who meets the qualifications for that level and who annually demonstrates instructional leader competencies. If a level three-A teacher does not demonstrate essential competency in a given school year, the school district shall provide the teacher with additional professional development and peer intervention during the following school year. If by the end of that school year the teacher fails to demonstrate essential competency, a school district may choose not to contract with the teacher to teach in the classroom.

B. The department shall grant a level three-A license to an applicant who has been a level two teacher for at least three years and holds a post-baccalaureate degree or national board for professional teaching standards certification; demonstrates instructional leader competence as

required by the department and verified by the local superintendent through the highly objective uniform statewide standard of evaluation; and meets other qualifications for the license.

C. With the adoption by the department of a highly objective uniform statewide standard of evaluation for level three-A teachers, the minimum salary for a level three-A teacher for a standard nine and one-half month contract shall be as follows:

(1) for the 2003-2004 school year, thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000);

(2) for the 2004-2005 school year, thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000);

(3) for the 2005-2006 school year, forty thousand dollars (\$40,000);

(4) for the 2006-2007 school year, forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000); and

(5) for the 2007-2008 school year, fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).

D. The minimum salary for a counselor who holds a level three or three-A license as provided in the School Personnel Act and rules promulgated by the department shall be the same as provided for level three-A teachers pursuant to Subsection C of this section.

E. A level three-B license is a nine-year license

granted to a school administrator who meets the qualifications for that level. Licenses may be renewed upon satisfactory annual demonstration of instructional leader and administrative competency.

F. The department shall grant a level three-B license to an applicant who:

(1) holds a level two license and meets the requirements for a level three-A license or who holds a current level two teacher's license and, for at least four years, has held the highest-ranked counselor license as provided in Chapter 22, Article 10A NMSA 1978 and rules promulgated by the department;

(2) holds a post-baccalaureate degree or national board for professional teaching standards certification;

(3) has satisfactorily completed department-approved courses in administration and a department-approved administration apprenticeship program; and

(4) demonstrates instructional leader competence required by the department and verified by the local superintendent through the highly objective uniform statewide standard of evaluation.

G. Beginning with the 2007-2008 school year, the minimum annual salary for a level three-B school principal or assistant school principal shall be fifty thousand dollars

(\$50,000) multiplied by the applicable responsibility factor.

H. By the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year, the department shall adopt a highly objective uniform statewide standard of evaluation, which includes data sources linked to student achievement and educational plan for student success progress, for level three-B school principals and assistant school principals and rules for the implementation of that evaluation system linked to the level of responsibility at each school level." _____