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SENATE BILL 119

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018

INTRODUCED BY

Mimi Stewart

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOOL PERSONNEL; INCREASING STATUTORY MINIMUM SALARIES FOR LEVEL ONE, LEVEL TWO AND LEVEL THREE-A TEACHERS; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

SECTION 1. Section 22-10A-7 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003, Chapter 153, Section 38, as amended) is amended to read:

"22-10A-7. LEVEL ONE LICENSURE.--

A. A level one license is a provisional five-year license for beginning teachers that requires as a condition of licensure that the licensee undergo a formal mentorship program for at least one full school year and an annual intensive performance evaluation by a school administrator for at least three full school years before applying for a level two license.

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1 B. Each school district, in accordance with
2 department rules, shall provide for the mentorship and
3 evaluation of level one teachers. At the end of each year and
4 at the end of the license period, the level one teacher shall
5 be evaluated for competency. If the teacher fails to
6 demonstrate satisfactory progress and competence annually, the
7 teacher may be terminated as provided in Section 22-10A-24 NMSA
8 1978. If the teacher has not demonstrated satisfactory
9 progress and competence by the end of the five-year period, the
10 teacher shall not be granted a level two license.

11 C. Except in exigent circumstances defined by
12 department rule, a level one license shall not be extended
13 beyond the initial period.

14 D. The department shall issue a standard level one
15 license to an applicant who is at least eighteen years of age
16 who:

17 (1) holds a baccalaureate degree from an
18 accredited educational institution;

19 (2) has successfully completed a department-
20 approved teacher preparation program from a nationally
21 accredited or state-approved educational institution;

22 (3) has passed the New Mexico teacher
23 assessments examination, including for elementary licensure
24 beginning January 1, 2013, a rigorous assessment of the
25 candidate's knowledge of the science of teaching reading; and

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1 (4) meets other qualifications for level one
2 licensure, including clearance of the required background
3 check.

4 E. The department shall issue an alternative level
5 one license to an applicant who meets the requirements of
6 Section 22-10A-8 NMSA 1978.

7 F. The department shall establish competencies and
8 qualifications for specific grade levels, types and subject
9 areas of level one licensure, including early childhood,
10 elementary, middle school, secondary, special ~~[education]~~ and
11 vocational education.

12 G. ~~[Beginning]~~ With the ~~[2003-2004 school year,~~
13 ~~with the]~~ adoption by the department of a highly objective
14 uniform statewide standard of evaluation for level one
15 teachers, the minimum salary for a level one teacher shall be
16 ~~[thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000)]~~ thirty-six thousand dollars
17 (\$36,000) for a standard nine and one-half month contract.

18 ~~[H. Teachers who hold level one licenses on the~~
19 ~~effective date of the 2003 act must be evaluated by the end of~~
20 ~~the 2006-2007 school year.]"~~

21 SECTION 2. Section 22-10A-10 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003,
22 Chapter 153, Section 41, as amended by Laws 2005, Chapter 315,
23 Section 7 and by Laws 2005, Chapter 316, Section 4) is amended
24 to read:

25 "22-10A-10. LEVEL TWO LICENSURE.--

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1 A. A level two license is a nine-year license
2 granted to a teacher who meets the qualifications for that
3 level and who annually demonstrates essential competency to
4 teach. If a level two teacher does not demonstrate essential
5 competency in a given school year, the school district shall
6 provide the teacher with additional professional development
7 and peer intervention during the following school year. If by
8 the end of that school year the teacher fails to demonstrate
9 essential competency, a school district may choose not to
10 contract with the teacher to teach in the classroom.

11 B. The department shall issue a level two license
12 to an applicant who successfully completes the level one
13 license or is granted reciprocity as provided by department
14 rules; demonstrates essential competency required by the
15 department as verified by the local superintendent through the
16 highly objective uniform statewide standard of evaluation; and
17 meets other qualifications as required by the department.

18 C. The department shall provide for qualifications
19 for specific grade levels, types and subject areas of level two
20 licensure, including early childhood, elementary, middle,
21 secondary, special ~~[education]~~ and vocational education.

22 D. With the adoption by the department of the
23 statewide objective performance evaluation for level two
24 teachers, the minimum salary for a level two teacher for a
25 standard nine and one-half month contract shall be ~~[as follows:~~

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1 ~~(1) for the 2003-2004 school year, thirty~~
2 ~~thousand dollars (\$30,000);~~
3 ~~(2) for the 2004-2005 school year, thirty-five~~
4 ~~thousand dollars (\$35,000); and~~
5 ~~(3) for the 2005-2006 school year, forty~~
6 ~~thousand dollars (\$40,000)] forty-four thousand dollars~~
7 ~~(\$44,000).~~"

8 SECTION 3. Section 22-10A-11 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003,
9 Chapter 153, Section 42, as amended by Laws 2015, Chapter 74,
10 Section 1 and by Laws 2015, Chapter 103, Section 1) is amended
11 to read:

12 "22-10A-11. LEVEL THREE LICENSURE--TRACKS FOR TEACHERS.--

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

23 B. The department shall grant a level three-A
24 license to an applicant who has been a level two teacher for at
25 least three years and holds a post-baccalaureate degree or

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1 national board for professional teaching standards
2 certification; demonstrates instructional leader competence as
3 required by the department and verified by the local
4 superintendent through the highly objective uniform statewide
5 standard of evaluation; and meets other qualifications for the
6 license.

7 C. With the adoption by the department of a highly
8 objective uniform statewide standard of evaluation for level
9 three-A teachers, the minimum salary for a level three-A
10 teacher for a standard nine and one-half month contract shall
11 be [~~fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)~~] fifty-four thousand
12 dollars (\$54,000).

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

18 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION.--Sixteen million six hundred
19 twenty-two thousand seven hundred dollars (\$16,622,700) is
20 appropriated from the general fund to the state equalization
21 guarantee distribution for expenditure in fiscal year 2019 to
22 increase the statutory minimum salaries for level one, level
23 two and level three-A teachers. Any unexpended or unencumbered
24 balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2019 shall revert
25 to the general fund.

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