WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 1999

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ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
House Bill No. 2349

(By Mr. Speaker, Mr. Kiss, and Delegate Trump)
[By Request of the Executive]

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Passed March 13, 1999

In Effect July 1, 1999
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COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

H. B. 2349

(By Mr. Speaker, Mr. Kiss, and Delegate Trump)
[By Request of the Executive]

[Passed March 13, 1999; in effect July 1, 1999.]

AN ACT to amend article four, chapter eighteen-a of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated section two-a, relating to providing a salary bonus for classroom teachers who hold a valid certificate issued by the National Board of Professional Teaching standards and reimbursement for teachers in the process of receiving certification.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That article four, chapter eighteen-a of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section two-a, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 4. SALARIES, WAGES AND OTHER BENEFITS.

§18A-4-2a. State minimum salary bonus for classroom teachers with National Board Certification.
(a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that the rigorous standards and processes for certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) helps to promote the quality of teaching and learning. Therefore, classroom teachers in the public schools of West Virginia should be encouraged to achieve national board certification through a reimbursement of expenses and an additional salary bonus which reflects their additional certification, to be paid in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

(b) Beginning on the first day of July, one thousand nine-hundred ninety-eight, and subject to legislative appropriation, one thousand dollars shall be paid annually at the conclusion of the first semester to each classroom teacher who holds a valid certificate issued by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards for the life of the certification, but in no event more than ten years for any one certification.

(c) Subject to legislative appropriation, one thousand dollars shall be paid for reimbursement once to each teacher who enrolls in the program for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification and one thousand dollars shall be paid for reimbursement once to each teacher who completes the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification. Teachers who achieve National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification may be reimbursed a maximum of six hundred dollars for expenses actually incurred while obtaining the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification.

(d) The state board shall limit the number of teachers who receive the initial reimbursements to one hundred teachers annually. The state board shall establish selection criteria for the one hundred teachers by the legislative rule required pursuant to subsection (g) of this section.

(e) Funding for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certifications shall be administered by the state department of education from an appropriation established for that purpose by the Legislature. If funds appropriated by the Legislature to accomplish the purposes of this section are
insufficient, the state department shall prorate the reimburse-
mements for expenses and salary bonuses and shall request of the
Legislature, at its next regular session, funds sufficient to
accomplish the purposes of this section, including needed
retroactive payments.

(f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require any
level of appropriation by the Legislature nor to create any
entitlement for payments pursuant to the provisions of this
section.

(g) The state board shall promulgate legislative rules
pursuant to article three-b, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code to
implement the provisions of this section.
That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

_Neil Goldsmith_
Chairman Senate Committee

_Jerry Brown_
Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

Takes effect July 1, 1999.

_Laszlo Hanyecz_
Clerk of the Senate

_Earl Ray Tomblin_
President of the Senate

_Johnny Boggs_
Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within _____ approved this the ______ day of ________, 1999.

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Governor