

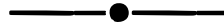
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HB

FILED

2007 MAR 28 PM 2: 38

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2007



ENROLLED

**COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
House Bill No. 2588**

(By Delegates M. Poling and Paxton)



Passed March 10, 2007

In Effect on July 1, 2007

FILED

E N R O L L E D

2007 MAR 28 PM 2:38

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

FOR

H. B. 2588

(BY DELEGATES M. POLING AND PAXTON)

[Passed March 10, 2007; in effect July 1, 2007.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact §18A-3-3a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the reimbursement of tuition, registration and other required fees for coursework completed by teachers for certification renewal and an additional endorsement in a shortage area; creating priority for reimbursement of courses for renewals and endorsement in shortage areas if insufficient funds appropriated; and limiting semester hours of courses reimbursed for any teacher.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §18A-3-3a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 3. TRAINING, CERTIFICATION, LICENSING, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

§18A-3-3a. Payment of tuition, registration and other fees for teachers; maximum payment per teacher.

1 (a) The West Virginia Department of Education shall
2 promulgate rules to administer the reimbursement of tuition,
3 registration and other required fees for coursework completed
4 by teachers in accordance with the provisions of this section.
5 The rules shall provide for reimbursement for courses
6 completed toward both certification renewal and additional
7 endorsement in a shortage area.

8 (b) As used in this section, the following words and
9 phrases have the meanings ascribed to them:

10 (1) "Teacher" has the meaning provided in section one,
11 article one, chapter eighteen of this code.

12 (2) "Shortage area" shall be defined by state board policy
13 to indicate the subject areas for which an insufficient number
14 of teachers are available.

15 (3) "Certification" and "certificate" mean a valid West
16 Virginia:

17 (A) Professional teaching, service or administrative
18 certificate, or its equivalent; or

19 (B) Provisional professional teaching, service or
20 administrative certificate, or its equivalent.

21 (4) "Requirements for certification renewal" are those
22 requirements of the State Department of Education as
23 provided in section three of this article.

24 (5) "Requirements for additional endorsement" are those
25 requirements of the State Department of Education as
26 provided in section three of this article.

27 (6) "State institution of higher education" has the
28 meaning provided in section two, article one, chapter
29 eighteen-b of this code.

30 (c) To the extent of funds appropriated for the purposes

31 specified in this section, payment shall be made to any
32 teacher who:

33 (1) Holds either a valid West Virginia:

34 (A) Certificate; or

35 (B) First class permit for full-time employment; and

36 (2) Is seeking:

37 (A) An additional endorsement in a shortage area, and
38 either resides in the state or is employed regularly for
39 instructional purposes in a public school in the state; or

40 (B) Certification renewal, and has a continuing contract
41 with a county board.

42 (d) The payment shall be made as reimbursement for the
43 tuition, registration and other required fees for any course
44 completed at:

45 (1) Any college or university within the state; or

46 (2) A college or university outside the state if prior
47 approval is granted by the department.

48 (e) A course is eligible for reimbursement if it meets the
49 requirements for:

50 (1) An additional endorsement in a shortage area; or

51 (2) Certification renewal.

52 (f) If funds appropriated for the purposes specified in
53 this section are insufficient for the reimbursement of all
54 eligible courses within the limits provided in this section, the
55 West Virginia Department of Education shall make the
56 reimbursements for courses for additional endorsement in a
57 shortage area and certification renewal in a shortage area
58 first.


59 (g) Payment made for any single fee may not exceed the
60 amount of the highest corresponding fee charged at a state
61 institution of higher education.

62 (h) Reimbursement for courses completed toward
63 certification renewal is limited to fifteen semester hours of
64 courses for any teacher. Reimbursement for courses
65 completed toward additional endorsement in a shortage area
66 is limited to fifteen semester hours of courses for any teacher.

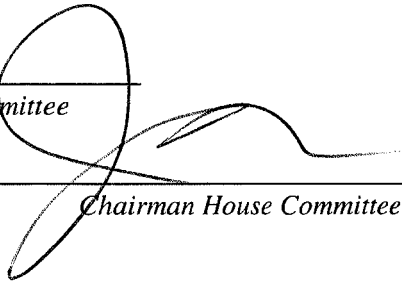
67 (i) The West Virginia Department of Education shall seek
68 funding from sources other than general revenue
69 appropriation, including, but not limited to, workforce
70 investment funds.

71 (j) No provision of this section may be construed to
72 require any appropriation or any specific amount of
73 appropriation for the purposes specified in this section, or to
74 require the department to expend funds for those purposes
75 from any other amounts appropriated for expenditure by the
76 department.

That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.




Chairman Senate Committee



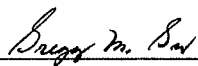
Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

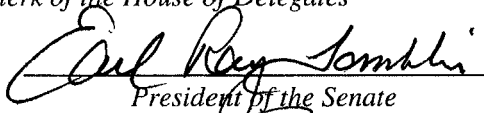
In effect on July 1, 2007




Clerk of the Senate



Clerk of the House of Delegates




President of the Senate



Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 28th
day of March, 2007.



Governor

PRESENTED TO THE
GOVERNOR

MAR 21 2007

Time 4:00 pm