

SHORT TITLE: State government; amending the benefits provided to certified teachers working for the state as administrators, counselors, librarians, and teachers; effective date; emergency.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

SENATE BILL NO. 756

By: Capps

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to state government; amending 74 O.S. 1991, Section 840.17, as renumbered by Section 54, Chapter 242, O.S.L. 1994 (74 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 840-4.9), which relates to certain teachers' rights and benefits; establishing a minimum salary scale for certain certified teachers employed by the state; providing credit for certain teaching experience; allowing for salary adjustment for the number of weeks worked; providing for annual salary adjustments; clarifying language; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 840.17, as renumbered by Section 54, Chapter 242, O.S.L. 1994 (74 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 840-4.9), is amended to read as follows:

Section 840-4.9 A. Certified teachers employed to serve as administrators, counselors, librarians, ~~or to teach~~ or teachers by the state, under the Merit System of Personnel Administration, shall be entitled to ~~all~~:

1. All benefits granted other state employees of the agency, board, commission, department or institution by which they are employed. ~~Such teachers shall also be entitled to all;~~

2. All benefits and privileges of their profession, including the right to select at the beginning of their employment with the state whether to participate in either the Oklahoma Public Employees' Retirement System, or the ~~Oklahoma~~ Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma at the option of the teacher and the;

3. All retirement earned under the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System or the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma upon transfer to another job on either the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System or the Teachers Retirement System of Oklahoma;

4. The right of membership and participation in the Oklahoma Education Association and all other professional associations and organizations of their choice;

5. Minimum salaries not less than the minimum salary currently prescribed by law for public school teachers adjusted to a fifty-two-week year;

6. Full credit for all paid teaching experience for purposes of determining compensation, except that not more than five (5) years' credit shall be granted for teaching experience outside the State of Oklahoma;

7. Any increase in salaries of public school teachers granted by law from time to time. Such increases shall be effective the last day of the month in which such law becomes effective; and

8. Annual step increases in salary, depending upon a satisfactory work record as reflected by annual evaluation.

B. For the purposes of this section, the salary of a public school teacher, as established by law, shall be considered as compensation for thirty-nine (39) weeks of employment and the salaries of certified teachers employed to serve as administrators, counselors, librarians or teachers by the state shall be adjusted to provide full compensation for fifty-two (52) weeks annually, by multiplying the annual salary of a public school teacher having

equivalent experience by 1.33 (52/39). This shall apply to all levels and increments of the salary schedule, and the salaries of all certified teachers employed to serve as administrators, counselors, librarians or teachers by the state shall annually be reviewed and adjusted as provided above. For the purposes of this section, salary will be defined as direct monetary compensation pursuant to the state minimum salary schedule for public school teachers.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 1997.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

46-1-0404

PHB