

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 48th Legislature (2001)

SENATE BILL 389

By: Crutchfield of the Senate

and

Staggs of the House

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; providing certain bonus to eligible school psychologists, speech-language pathologists and audiologists; directing State Board of Education to pay bonus if funds available; directing State Board of Education to adopt rules which shall include certain criteria; stating school districts not liable for payment of bonus; stating bonus not be included in certain calculation; providing contingent increase of bonus; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-205 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Subject to the availability of funds, the State Board of Education shall provide an annual salary bonus in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) no later than January 31 of each year to the following employees of public school districts:

1. School psychologists who have been designated as a Nationally Certified School Psychologist by the National School Psychology Certification Board; and

2. Speech-language pathologists and audiologists who hold a Certificate of Clinical Competence awarded by the American Speech-Language Hearing Association.

B. The State Department of Education shall adopt rules for the provision of the bonus pursuant to this act to include, but not be

limited to, a process by which a nationally certified school psychologist, speech-language pathologist and audiologist may verify that:

1. The individual is still employed full-time by a school district;

2. The certification required in subsection A of this section has been attained and has not lapsed; and

3. The individual is licensed to practice in this state.

C. No school or school district shall be liable for payment of bonuses pursuant to this section. The bonus shall not be included in the calculation of salary for purposes of meeting the district or statutory minimum salary schedule or for purposes of compensating Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma contributions or benefits.

D. The amount of the salary bonus pursuant to subsection A of this section shall be increased to Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000.00) when Section 6-204.2 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes as amended by Section 46 of Chapter 320 of the 1999 Session Laws is implemented pursuant to Section 56 of Chapter 320 of the 1999 Session Laws.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2001.

48-1-201

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