

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 52nd Legislature (2010)

3 SENATE BILL 2084

By: Corn

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001,
8 Section 6-204.2, as last amended by Section 1,
9 Chapter 197, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp. 2009, Section
10 6-204.2), which relates to the Education Leadership
11 Oklahoma program; increasing maximum number of
12 scholarship recipients; amending Section 1, Chapter
13 503, O.S.L. 2004, as last amended by Section 1,
14 Chapter 212, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp. 2009, Section
15 18-114.12), which relates to the teacher minimum
16 salary schedule; specifying minimum salary increase
17 for certain school year; amending 70 O.S. 2001,
18 Section 26-105, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter
19 180, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp. 2009, Section 26-
20 105), which relates to the Larry Dickerson Education
21 Flexible Benefits Allowance Act; deleting obsolete
22 language; providing a dependent flexible benefit
23 allowance for certain education employees; requiring
24 school districts to provide each teacher with
specified time each school day for certain purposes;
requiring certain wage increase for support
employees; providing for codification; providing for
noncodification; providing an effective date; and
declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-204.2, as
last amended by Section 1, Chapter 197, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp.
2009, Section 6-204.2), is amended to read as follows:

1 Section 6-204.2 A. Subject to the availability of funds, the
2 Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation and the State Board of
3 Education are authorized to establish the Education Leadership
4 Oklahoma program.

5 B. The purposes of the Education Leadership Oklahoma program
6 are:

7 1. Provide teachers throughout the state information about
8 National Board certification and the Education Leadership Oklahoma
9 program scholarships and services;

10 2. Provide technical assistance and National Board certified
11 mentors to all teachers seeking National Board certification upon
12 request;

13 3. Provide scholarships, pursuant to the Education Leadership
14 Oklahoma Act and Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation rules,
15 for teachers seeking National Board certification;

16 4. Provide a bonus to teachers who achieve National Board
17 certification pursuant to the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act and
18 State Board of Education rules;

19 5. Reward teachers who achieve National Board certification
20 without the financial support of the Education Leadership Oklahoma
21 program by awarding them the application fee and the amount of the
22 scholarship given to Education Leadership Oklahoma participants
23 pursuant to this section and commission rules; and

24 6. Provide recognition to National Board certified teachers.

1 C. To fulfill the objectives of the Education Leadership
2 Oklahoma Act, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall:

3 1. Inform teachers of the Education Leadership Oklahoma program
4 and the scholarships and services it provides to teachers seeking
5 National Board certification, emphasizing recruiting efforts toward
6 teachers at high-poverty schools, low-achieving schools and in
7 counties with the lowest percentage of teachers who have achieved
8 National Board certification;

9 2. Collect and review applications to the scholarship program
10 from interested teachers;

11 3. Establish an applicant review committee for the purpose of
12 identifying scholarship recipients pursuant to the Education
13 Leadership Oklahoma Act for the Education Leadership Oklahoma
14 program; and

15 4. Ensure that all scholarship recipients, alternates, and
16 teachers seeking National Board certification independently receive
17 adequate information regarding the level of commitment required to
18 acquire National Board certification.

19 D. The applicant review committee shall:

20 1. Consist of:

21 a. five classroom teachers appointed by the State Board
22 of Education, at least one of whom shall be a National
23 Board certified teacher, if available,

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1 b. five classroom teachers appointed by the Oklahoma
2 Commission for Teacher Preparation, at least one of
3 whom shall be a National Board certified teacher, if
4 available,

5 c. three classroom teachers appointed by the Oklahoma
6 State Regents for Higher Education, at least one of
7 whom shall be a National Board certified teacher, if
8 available, and

9 d. a chair to be designated by the Executive Director of
10 the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation from
11 among the appointed members; and

12 2. Select up to ~~four hundred~~ six hundred fifty teachers each
13 year, of whom a minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) teach at
14 schools on the school improvement list as determined by the State
15 Board of Education pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act or
16 schools with more than fifty percent (50%) of students who qualify
17 for the free and reduced price lunch program, and the appropriate
18 number of alternates, who:

19 a. have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in
20 teaching,

21 b. meet all eligibility requirements for potential
22 certification as established by the National Board for
23 Professional Teaching Standards,

24 c. are employed in an Oklahoma public school, and

1 d. meet other requirements of the Commission.

2 E. Subject to the availability of funds appropriated by the
3 Legislature for the purposes of this subsection, the application fee
4 for National Board certification shall be paid for scholarship
5 recipients by the Commission, and scholarship recipients shall be
6 provided a scholarship in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars
7 (\$500.00) to cover other expenses associated with obtaining National
8 Board certification.

9 F. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Oklahoma
10 Commission for Teacher Preparation contract with Southeastern
11 Oklahoma State University to establish Education Leadership Oklahoma
12 program training in higher education teacher preparation programs in
13 the state to assist teachers in meeting the requirements to obtain
14 National Board certification.

15 G. All teachers seeking National Board certification shall be
16 eligible to participate in Education Leadership Oklahoma program
17 training to assist them in meeting the requirements of the National
18 Board certification process, free of charge.

19 H. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall
20 promulgate rules for the selection of scholarship recipients, the
21 selection and utilization of alternates, the payment and
22 reimbursement of application fees, and the issuance of scholarships.

23 I. Subject to district board of education policy or collective
24 bargaining agreement, additional professional leave days may be

1 granted to teachers seeking National Board certification for
2 National Board certification portfolio development. During the two
3 (2) days of the additional professional days granted to teachers for
4 National Board certification portfolio development, a substitute
5 teacher shall be provided by the school district at no cost to the
6 teacher.

7 J. The State Board of Education shall provide all teachers who
8 attain National Board certification a bonus in the amount of Five
9 Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) annually no later than January 31 for
10 as long as they maintain their National Board certification and are
11 teaching in the classroom full-time in an Oklahoma public school.
12 No school or school district shall be liable for payment of bonuses
13 pursuant to this section.

14 K. The bonus shall not be included in the calculation of the
15 teacher's salary for purposes of meeting the district or statutory
16 minimum salary schedule or for purposes of compensating Oklahoma
17 Teachers' Retirement System contributions or benefits.

18 L. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules for the
19 provision of the bonus pursuant to this section to include, but not
20 be limited to, a process by which a National Board certified teacher
21 will verify that:

- 22 1. The National Board certification has not lapsed; and
- 23 2. The teacher is still a full-time teacher.

24

1 M. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Oklahoma State
2 Regents for Higher Education incorporate the National Board
3 certification portfolio development into all programs in education
4 leading to a master's level degree.

5 N. Upon implementation of this subsection as provided for in
6 subsection O of this section, the State Board of Education shall
7 provide all teachers who attain National Board certification a bonus
8 in the amount of Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000.00) annually no
9 later than January 31 for as long as they maintain their National
10 Board certification and are full-time teachers in an Oklahoma public
11 school. No school or school district shall be liable for payment of
12 bonuses pursuant to this section. Upon implementation, the bonus
13 provided for in this subsection shall replace the bonus provided for
14 in subsection J of this section.

15 O. Implementation of subsection N of this section shall be
16 contingent upon the appropriation by the Legislature of state funds
17 for the specific purpose of implementing subsection N of this
18 section. Nothing in this section shall prevent the State Board of
19 Education or a school district board of education from utilizing
20 private, local, or federal funds to implement subsection N of this
21 section.

22 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 503, O.S.L.
23 2004, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 212, O.S.L. 2007 (70
24 O.S. Supp. 2009, Section 18-114.12), is amended to read as follows:

1 Section 18-114.12 A. For the 2005-06 school year, teachers in
 2 the public schools of Oklahoma shall receive in salary and/or fringe
 3 benefits not less than the amounts specified in the following
 4 schedule:

5 MINIMUM SALARY SCHEDULE

6 Years of	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctor's
7 Experience	Degree	Degree	Degree
8 0	\$28,000	\$29,200	\$30,400
9 1	\$28,375	\$29,575	\$30,775
10 2	\$28,750	\$29,950	\$31,150
11 3	\$29,125	\$30,325	\$31,525
12 4	\$29,500	\$30,700	\$31,900
13 5	\$29,900	\$31,100	\$32,300
14 6	\$30,300	\$31,500	\$32,700
15 7	\$30,700	\$31,900	\$33,100
16 8	\$31,100	\$32,300	\$33,500
17 9	\$31,500	\$32,700	\$33,900
18 10	\$31,925	\$33,125	\$34,325
19 11	\$32,350	\$33,550	\$34,750
20 12	\$32,775	\$33,975	\$35,175
21 13	\$33,200	\$34,400	\$35,600
22 14	\$33,625	\$34,825	\$36,025
23 15	\$34,050	\$35,250	\$36,450
24 16	\$34,475	\$35,675	\$36,875

1	17	\$34,900	\$36,100	\$37,300
2	18	\$35,325	\$36,525	\$37,725
3	19	\$35,750	\$36,950	\$38,150
4	20	\$36,175	\$37,375	\$38,575
5	21	\$36,600	\$37,800	\$39,000
6	22	\$37,025	\$38,225	\$39,425
7	23	\$37,450	\$38,650	\$39,850
8	24	\$37,875	\$39,075	\$40,275
9	25	\$38,300	\$39,500	\$40,700

10 B. For the 2006-07 school year, teachers in the public schools
11 of Oklahoma shall receive in salary and/or fringe benefits not less
12 than the amounts specified in the following schedule:

13 MINIMUM SALARY SCHEDULE

14	Years of	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctor's
15	Experience	Degree	Degree	Degree
16	0	\$31,000	\$32,200	\$33,400
17	1	\$31,375	\$32,575	\$33,775
18	2	\$31,750	\$32,950	\$34,150
19	3	\$32,125	\$33,325	\$34,525
20	4	\$32,500	\$33,700	\$34,900
21	5	\$32,900	\$34,100	\$35,300
22	6	\$33,300	\$34,500	\$35,700
23	7	\$33,700	\$34,900	\$36,100
24	8	\$34,100	\$35,300	\$36,500

1	9	\$34,500	\$35,700	\$36,900
2	10	\$34,925	\$36,125	\$37,325
3	11	\$35,350	\$36,550	\$37,750
4	12	\$35,775	\$36,975	\$38,175
5	13	\$36,200	\$37,400	\$38,600
6	14	\$36,625	\$37,825	\$39,025
7	15	\$37,050	\$38,250	\$39,450
8	16	\$37,475	\$38,675	\$39,875
9	17	\$37,900	\$39,100	\$40,300
10	18	\$38,325	\$39,525	\$40,725
11	19	\$38,750	\$39,950	\$41,150
12	20	\$39,175	\$40,375	\$41,575
13	21	\$39,600	\$40,800	\$42,000
14	22	\$40,025	\$41,225	\$42,425
15	23	\$40,450	\$41,650	\$42,850
16	24	\$40,875	\$42,075	\$43,275
17	25	\$41,300	\$42,500	\$43,700

18 C. Beginning with the 2007-08 school year, teachers in the
19 public schools of Oklahoma shall receive in salary and/or fringe
20 benefits not less than the amounts specified in the following
21 schedule:

22 MINIMUM SALARY SCHEDULE

23	Years of	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctor's
24	Experience	Degree	Degree	Degree

1	0	\$31,600	\$32,800	\$34,000
2	1	\$31,975	\$33,175	\$34,375
3	2	\$32,350	\$33,550	\$34,750
4	3	\$32,725	\$33,925	\$35,125
5	4	\$33,100	\$34,300	\$35,500
6	5	\$33,500	\$34,700	\$35,900
7	6	\$33,900	\$35,100	\$36,300
8	7	\$34,300	\$35,500	\$36,700
9	8	\$34,700	\$35,900	\$37,100
10	9	\$35,100	\$36,300	\$37,500
11	10	\$35,950	\$37,575	\$39,625
12	11	\$36,375	\$38,000	\$40,050
13	12	\$36,800	\$38,425	\$40,475
14	13	\$37,225	\$38,850	\$40,900
15	14	\$37,650	\$39,275	\$41,325
16	15	\$38,075	\$39,700	\$41,750
17	16	\$38,500	\$40,125	\$42,175
18	17	\$38,925	\$40,550	\$42,600
19	18	\$39,350	\$40,975	\$43,025
20	19	\$39,775	\$41,400	\$43,450
21	20	\$40,200	\$41,825	\$43,875
22	21	\$40,625	\$42,250	\$44,300
23	22	\$41,050	\$42,675	\$44,725
24	23	\$41,475	\$43,100	\$45,150

1	<u>14</u>	<u>\$39,650</u>	<u>\$41,275</u>	<u>\$43,325</u>
2	<u>15</u>	<u>\$40,075</u>	<u>\$41,700</u>	<u>\$43,750</u>
3	<u>16</u>	<u>\$40,500</u>	<u>\$42,125</u>	<u>\$44,175</u>
4	<u>17</u>	<u>\$40,925</u>	<u>\$42,550</u>	<u>\$44,600</u>
5	<u>18</u>	<u>\$41,350</u>	<u>\$42,975</u>	<u>\$45,025</u>
6	<u>19</u>	<u>\$41,775</u>	<u>\$43,400</u>	<u>\$45,450</u>
7	<u>20</u>	<u>\$42,200</u>	<u>\$43,825</u>	<u>\$45,875</u>
8	<u>21</u>	<u>\$42,625</u>	<u>\$44,250</u>	<u>\$46,300</u>
9	<u>22</u>	<u>\$43,050</u>	<u>\$44,675</u>	<u>\$46,725</u>
10	<u>23</u>	<u>\$43,475</u>	<u>\$45,100</u>	<u>\$47,150</u>
11	<u>24</u>	<u>\$43,900</u>	<u>\$45,525</u>	<u>\$47,575</u>
12	<u>25</u>	<u>\$44,325</u>	<u>\$45,950</u>	<u>\$48,000</u>

13 E. When determining the Minimum Salary Schedule, "fringe
14 benefits" shall mean all or part of retirement benefits, excluding
15 the contributions made pursuant to subsection A of Section 17-108.1
16 of this title and the flexible benefit allowance pursuant to Section
17 26-105 of this title from the flexible benefit allowance funds
18 disbursed by the State Board of Education and the State Board of
19 Career and Technology Education pursuant to Section 26-104 of this
20 title. Any of the degrees referred to in this section shall be from
21 a college recognized by the State Board of Education. The State
22 Board of Education shall accept teaching experience from out-of-
23 state school districts that are accredited by the State Board of
24 Education or appropriate state accrediting agency for the districts.

1 For the purpose of state salary increments and retirement, no
2 teacher shall be granted credit for more than five (5) years' active
3 duty in the military service, or out-of-state teaching experience as
4 a certified teacher or its equivalent. Nothing in this section
5 shall prohibit boards of education from crediting more years of
6 experience on district salary schedules than those allowed for state
7 purposes. The State Board of Education shall recognize, for
8 purposes of certification and salary increments, the years of
9 experience of a certified teacher who teaches in the Department of
10 Corrections' educational program beginning with fiscal year 1981.
11 The State Board of Education shall recognize for purposes of
12 certification and salary increments the years of experience of a
13 Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor under the Department of Human
14 Services if the counselor was employed as a certified teacher by the
15 State Department of Education when the Division of Vocational
16 Rehabilitation was transferred from the State Board of Career and
17 Technology Education or the State Board of Education to the Oklahoma
18 Public Welfare Commission on July 1, 1968.

19 ~~E.~~ F. The State Board of Education shall recognize for purposes
20 of certification and salary increments all of the years of
21 experience a:

22 1. Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor completed while employed
23 by the Department of Human Services if such counselor was certified
24

1 as a teacher or was eligible for certification as a teacher in
2 Oklahoma;

3 2. Certified teacher completed while employed by the Department
4 of Human Services Child Study Center at University Hospital, if the
5 teacher was certified as a teacher in Oklahoma; and

6 3. Certified school psychologist or psychometrist completed
7 while employed as a doctoral intern, psychological assistant, or
8 psychologist with any agency of the State of Oklahoma if the
9 experience primarily involved work with persons of school or
10 preschool age and if the person was, at the time the experience was
11 acquired, certified as, or eligible for certification as, a school
12 psychologist or psychometrist.

13 ~~F.~~ G. The provisions of this section shall not apply to
14 teachers who have entered into postretirement employment with a
15 public school in Oklahoma and are still receiving a monthly
16 retirement benefit.

17 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 26-105, as
18 last amended by Section 2, Chapter 180, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp.
19 2009, Section 26-105), is amended to read as follows:

20 Section 26-105. A. The flexible benefit allowance shall be
21 used by a school district employee who is participating in the
22 cafeteria plan to purchase major medical health care plan coverage
23 offered by the school district through a cafeteria plan. Any excess
24 flexible benefit allowance over the cost of the major medical

1 coverage purchased by the employee who is participating in the
2 cafeteria plan may be used to purchase any of the additional
3 benefits offered by the school district or may be taken as taxable
4 compensation as provided in subsection C of this section. Certified
5 personnel who choose not to participate in the school-district-
6 sponsored cafeteria plan shall receive Sixty-nine Dollars and
7 seventy-one cents (\$69.71) per month as taxable compensation in lieu
8 of the flexible benefit allowance amount provided in subsection B of
9 this section. Support personnel who choose not to participate in
10 the school-district-sponsored cafeteria plan shall receive One
11 Hundred Eighty-nine Dollars and sixty-nine cents (\$189.69) per month
12 as taxable compensation in lieu of the flexible benefit allowance
13 amount provided in subsection B of this section.

14 B. Each eligible school district employee shall be credited
15 annually with a specified amount as a flexible benefit allowance
16 which shall be available for the purchase of benefits. The amount
17 of the flexible benefit allowance credited to each eligible school
18 district employee shall be communicated to the employee prior to the
19 enrollment period for each plan year.

20 1. ~~For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, the flexible~~
21 ~~benefit allowance amount for certified personnel shall be no less~~
22 ~~than Sixty nine Dollars and seventy one cents (\$69.71) per month.~~
23 ~~For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, the flexible benefit~~
24 ~~allowance amount for support personnel shall be no less than One~~

1 ~~Hundred Eighty nine Dollars and sixty nine cents (\$189.69) per~~
2 ~~month.~~

3 ~~2. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, the flexible~~
4 ~~benefit allowance amount for certified personnel shall be no less~~
5 ~~than fifty eight percent (58%) of the premium amount for the~~
6 ~~HealthChoice (Hi) option plan for an individual offered by the State~~
7 ~~and Education Employees Group Insurance Board. For the fiscal year~~
8 ~~ending June 30, 2003, and each fiscal year thereafter, the flexible~~
9 ~~benefit allowance amount for support personnel shall be no less than~~
10 ~~one hundred percent (100%) of the premium amount for the~~
11 ~~HealthChoice (Hi) option plan for an individual offered by the State~~
12 ~~and Education Employees Group Insurance Board.~~

13 ~~3.~~ 2. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, and each fiscal
14 year thereafter, the flexible benefit allowance amount for certified
15 personnel shall be no less than one hundred percent (100%) of the
16 premium amount for the HealthChoice (Hi) option plan for an
17 individual offered by the State and Education Employees Group
18 Insurance Board.

19 3. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, and each fiscal
20 year thereafter, the flexible benefit allowance credited to each
21 eligible school district employee who elects to purchase major
22 medical health care plan coverage offered by the school district
23 through a cafeteria plan for such employee's dependent or dependents
24 shall be increased as follows:

- 1 a. for a spouse, seventy-five percent (75%) of the price
2 of the HealthChoice (Hi) option benefit plan available
3 for coverage of a spouse,
- 4 b. for one child, seventy-five percent (75%) of the price
5 of the HealthChoice (Hi) option benefit plan available
6 for coverage of one child,
- 7 c. for two or more children, seventy-five percent (75%)
8 of the price of the HealthChoice (Hi) option benefit
9 plan available for coverage of two or more children,
- 10 d. for a spouse and one child, seventy-five percent (75%)
11 of the price of the HealthChoice (Hi) option benefit
12 plan available for coverage of a spouse and one child,
13 or
- 14 e. for a spouse and two or more children, seventy-five
15 percent (75%) of the price of the HealthChoice (Hi)
16 option benefit plan available for coverage of a spouse
17 and two or more children.

18 C. If a school district employee who is participating in the
19 cafeteria plan elects benefits whose sum total is less than the
20 flexible benefit allowance, the employee shall receive any excess
21 flexible benefit allowance as taxable compensation. Such taxable
22 compensation shall be paid in substantially equal amounts each pay
23 period over the plan year. Except as otherwise provided for in
24 subsection D of this section, on termination during a plan year, a

1 participating school district employee shall have no right to
2 receive any taxable cash compensation allocated to the portion of
3 the plan year after the termination of the employee.

4 D. In cases where the employee of a school district fulfills
5 the terms of their contract and terminates employment for the
6 subsequent year, the employee shall be entitled to the flexible
7 benefit allowance for the remainder of the current benefit term.
8 For purposes of this subsection, "benefit term" shall mean the
9 twelve-month period after the initiation of benefits for the
10 position held by the employee.

11 E. Each school district employee shall make an annual election
12 of benefits under the plan during an enrollment period to be held
13 prior to the beginning of each plan year. The enrollment period
14 dates will be determined annually and will be announced by the
15 school district, providing the enrollment period shall end no later
16 than thirty (30) days before the beginning of the plan year. Each
17 school district employee shall make an irrevocable advance election
18 for the plan year or the remainder of the plan year pursuant to
19 procedures the school district shall prescribe.

20 F. The school district shall prescribe the forms that school
21 district employees shall be required to use in making their
22 elections, and may prescribe deadlines and other procedures for
23 filing the elections.

24

1 G. School district employees hired after the closing of the
2 enrollment period shall be allowed to make an election as provided
3 in ~~this act~~ Section 26-101 et seq. of this title.

4 H. A district board of education shall have the option of
5 providing a flexible benefit allowance to the superintendent of the
6 school district in an amount not more than the amount of the
7 flexible benefit allowance established for certified personnel in
8 subsection B of this section. Funding for the flexible benefit
9 allowance for a superintendent shall be provided through local
10 revenue.

11 SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
12 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-111.1 of Title 70, unless
13 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

14 Contingent on expansion of the school day, as provided in
15 Section 1-111 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, each school
16 district shall provide each teacher a minimum of ninety (90) minutes
17 each school day for purposes of teacher planning, collaboration, and
18 professional development.

19 SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be
20 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

21 A. Contingent on the availability of funds appropriated for the
22 purposes of this section, each school district shall provide to
23 every full-time state-funded support employee a wage increase
24 equivalent to One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for the 2010-2011

1 school year. The wage increase shall be over the base amount the
2 employee earned during the preceding school year provided the
3 support employee is employed by the same school district for the
4 following school year.

5 B. Support employees employed on a part-time basis shall
6 receive a pro-rated increase. The increase prescribed by this
7 section shall be in addition to any other compensation and fringe
8 benefits mandated by law or collective bargaining agreement, unless
9 the hours or duties of the support employee are reduced
10 proportionately.

11 SECTION 6. This act shall become effective July 1, 2010.

12 SECTION 7. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
13 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
14 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
15 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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