Bill Summary 1st Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.: HB 4388
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Bill Analysis

HB 4388 directs annual Oklahoma Education Lottery Trust Fund net proceeds that exceed \$75 million to be deposited into the Teacher Empowerment Revolving Fund to be used as a state match to school district funds to provide salary increases for teachers with advanced, lead, and master teaching certificates. The bill also removes current language establishing criteria for master and lead teaching certificates. It instead directs the State Board of Education to establish advanced, lead, and master certificates with a minimum salary increase paid by the district and matched by the state with lottery funds. It directs the advanced certificate to include a minimum increase of \$3,000, the lead certificate to include a minimum increase of \$5,000, and the master certificate to include a minimum increase of \$10,000 with a maximum increase of \$40,000. The bill also creates one-time awards for teachers who work in a school with an enrollment of 40 percent or more students who are economically disadvantaged or a district with an enrollment of less than 1,000 students as follows: \$1,500 for an advanced certificate, \$2,500 for a lead certificate, and \$5,000 for a master certificate.

It allows school districts to submit designation plans to the State Department of Education for evaluation and approval, and it directs the Department to review them biennially. It directs district designations to be based on at least a teacher observation, an out-of-classroom component, and a student performance component. It prohibits a district from designating more than 10 percent of its teachers as advanced, lead, or master during any school year. It exempts advanced, lead, and master teachers from annual Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Evaluation System (TLE) evaluations. The bill allows districts to designate teachers for advanced, lead, or master certificates twice per year. It directs designated teachers to be placed in professional development cohorts and provided additional training by the Department. It directs the Department to annually report the participating districts; the number of advanced, lead, and master certificates awarded; and the amount in state matching funds distributed. The measure directs the advanced, lead, and master certificates to be made available beginning in the 2022-23 school year. It states that if funding is not available, the Department is not required to make the certificates available.

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