

March 15, 2001

H 619. TEACHER ASSISTANT SALARY SCHEDULE. TO ESTABLISH A SALARY SCHEDULE FOR TEACHER ASSISTANTS. Amends GS 115C-12(16) to remove references to 1995-96 fiscal year and to create a new subsection (d) requiring the State Board of Education to adopt guidelines for the implementation of a teacher assistant salary schedule outlined in this bill. Lays out teacher assistant salary schedule, to be phased in over three fiscal years and fully implemented by June 30, 2004. Schedule is based on years of experience and level of education, and pay ranges from \$14,000 to \$21,560. Phase-in requires that funds appropriated in 2001-02 for a teacher assistant salary increase be used to begin implementation of the salary schedule; sets minimum salary levels by Jan. 31, 2002 for five-year intervals of experience up to 20 years and more. For example, teacher assistants with at least five but less than 10 years of experience must be paid at least the amount on the salary schedule for a teacher assistant with five years of experience. Requires that 2002-03 appropriation be used to place all teacher assistants on schedule in accordance with years of experience, and requires that 2003-04 appropriation be used to place all on the salary schedule in accordance with their years of experience and educational level. Provides that pay is to be established based on a teacher assistant's experience and education as of July 1 prior to the school year's beginning, and that no teacher assistant may be paid less under the schedule than they were paid in the previous school year.

Requires that State Board adopt policies defining years of experience as well as forms for documenting experience and education level. Directs the Community College System to evaluate teacher assistant coursework and issue various levels of certification if teacher assistants meet requirements for a teacher assistant program developed by the System. Explicitly provides that this law may not be construed as modifying GS 115C-105.25(b)(1) (limits on transferring funds between funding allotment categories). Provides that transfers of funds allocated for a teacher assistant position to reduce class size must be equal to the average teacher assistant salary. Provides that effective July 1, 2002, state funds for teacher assistants shall be allocated as a position allotment. Effective July 1, 2003, requires allocation of those funds as a position allotment based on years of experience and education. Effective July 1, 2001.

Intro. by Warner, Buchanan, Bonner.

Ref. to Appropriations	GS 115C, APPROP
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