GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2019

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HOUSE BILL DRH10258-MTa-18D

Short Title:	Sch. Psychologist Compensation & Recruitment.	(Public)	
Sponsors:	Representatives Grange, Dobson, Horn, and Lambeth (Primary Sponsors).		
Referred to:			

1	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED					
2	AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO INCREASE COMPENSATION FOR SCHOOL					
3	PSYCHOLO	GISTS	AND	TO ESTABLISH THE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST		
4	RECRUITMI	ENT AN	JD RET	ENTION PROGRAM.		
5	The General Asse	embly o	f North	Carolina enacts:		
6		•				
7	PART I. INCRE	EASE C	OMPE	NSATION FOR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS		
8	SECTION 1.(a) In addition to the salary provided in accordance with the "A" salary					
9	schedule, school psychologists shall receive one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per month.					
10	SECT	FION 1.	(b) The	ere is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of		
11	Public Instruction	n for the	2019-2	020 fiscal year the sum of seven million five hundred thousand		
12	dollars (\$7,500,000) in recurring funds to provide compensation increases for school					
13	psychologists pursuant to this section.					
14						
15	PART II. SC	CHOOL	PSY	CHOLOGISTS RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION		
16	PROGRAM					
17	SECTION 2.(a) Program; Purpose. – The State Board of Education shall establish					
18	the School Psychologists Recruitment and Retention Program (program). The purpose of the					
19	program is to recruit high-quality school psychologists to public school units and retain					
20	U 1 I		0	ts in public school units by providing signing and retention		
21	bonuses to select	-		0		
22	SECT	FION 2.	(b) Def	initions. – For purposes of this section, the following definitions		
23	shall apply:					
24						
24	(1)	Public		unit. – Any of the following:		
25	(1)	Public a.	A loca	l school administrative unit.		
25 26	(1)		A loca A chai	l school administrative unit. eter school.		
25 26 27	(1)	a. b. c.	A loca A chai A regi	l school administrative unit. ter school. onal school.		
25 26 27 28	(1)	a. b.	A loca A chan A regi A scho	I school administrative unit. ter school. onal school. pool providing elementary or secondary instruction operated by		
25 26 27 28 29	(1)	a. b. c.	A loca A chan A regi A scho one of	Il school administrative unit. eter school. onal school. ool providing elementary or secondary instruction operated by the following:		
25 26 27 28 29 30	(1)	a. b. c.	A loca A chan A regi A scho	I school administrative unit. ter school. onal school. ool providing elementary or secondary instruction operated by the following: The State Board of Education, including schools operated		
25 26 27 28 29 30 31	(1)	a. b. c.	A loca A chan A regi A scho one of 1.	Il school administrative unit. tter school. onal school. ool providing elementary or secondary instruction operated by the following: The State Board of Education, including schools operated under Article 7A and Article 9C of this Chapter.		
25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32	(1)	a. b. c.	A loca A chan A regi A scho one of	Il school administrative unit. ter school. onal school. ool providing elementary or secondary instruction operated by the following: The State Board of Education, including schools operated under Article 7A and Article 9C of this Chapter. The University of North Carolina, including schools operated		
25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33	(1)	a. b. c.	A loca A chan A regi A scho one of 1.	I school administrative unit. ter school. onal school. ool providing elementary or secondary instruction operated by the following: The State Board of Education, including schools operated under Article 7A and Article 9C of this Chapter. The University of North Carolina, including schools operated under Articles 4, 29, and 29A of Chapter 116 of the General		
25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34	(1)	a. b. c.	A loca A chan A regi A scho one of 1. 2.	Il school administrative unit. ter school. onal school. ool providing elementary or secondary instruction operated by the following: The State Board of Education, including schools operated under Article 7A and Article 9C of this Chapter. The University of North Carolina, including schools operated under Articles 4, 29, and 29A of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes.		
25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33	(1)	a. b. c.	A loca A chan A regi A scho one of 1.	I school administrative unit. ter school. onal school. ool providing elementary or secondary instruction operated by the following: The State Board of Education, including schools operated under Article 7A and Article 9C of this Chapter. The University of North Carolina, including schools operated under Articles 4, 29, and 29A of Chapter 116 of the General		



	General Assembly Of North C	Session 2019					
1	4.	The Division of Adult Correction a	and Juvenile Justice of the				
2		Department of Public Safety.					
3	(2) Recruitment	and retention coordinator. – The per	son at the Department of				
		ction, under the direct supervision of th	1				
4 5		ho is responsible for administering th	-				
6		plementation. – The recruitment and					
7	coordinate with public school u	nits to allocate funds appropriated fo					
8	subject to the following requiren	nents:					
9	(1) Bonuses shall	l be conditioned on the existence of a	an agreement between the				
10	-	l unit and the school psychologist th					
11	recruitment a	and retention coordinator and (ii) at	a minimum, includes the				
12	following pro	visions:					
13	a. The s	chool psychologist agrees to remain	n employed in the public				
14	schoo	l unit as a school psychologist for	r three to five years, as				
15	negoti	iated by the parties.					
16	b. The s	school psychologist agrees to retu	urn bonus funds to the				
17	Depar	tment of Public Instruction on a pr	corated basis if all of the				
18	follow	ving criteria are met:					
19	1.	The school psychologist does not	remain employed in the				
20		public school unit as a school psycho	ologist for the agreed upon				
21		period of time.					
22	2.	The school psychologist has not bee					
23		a reduction in force, or disability tha	-				
24		carrying out the essential functions					
25		l bonus shall be greater than ten thous					
26		ng how to allocate funds for the prog	-				
27		rdinator shall consider the unique fac	tors of each public school				
28		g all of the following:					
29		evel of resources available to the pub	lic school unit that would				
30		e the funds.					
31		verall impact on student mental healt	h in the public school unit				
32		funds are provided.					
33		istory of difficulty in recruiting or reta	ining school psychologists				
34		public school unit.					
35		likelihood of success in recruiti	•				
36	1.	ologists at the public school unit with					
37		ent and retention coordinator shall n					
38	1	l unit unless the unit agrees that the					
39 40		and not supplant, local funds for school					
40		ovided in this section, the recruitment	and retention coordinator				
41		cretion over the allocation of funds.	d arraws ask as array the				
42		SECTION 2.(d) Report. – By September 30, 2019, and every subsequent three					
43 44	months in which funds are awarded, the recruitment and retention coordinator shall report to the						
44 45	President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Joint						
45 46	Legislative Education Oversight Committee, and the Fiscal Research Division on the identity of the public school units receiving funds, the amount of funds received by each public school unit						
40 47	the public school units receiving funds, the amount of funds received by each public school unit, and the purposes for which the funds were used.						
47 48			There is appropriated from				
40 49	SECTION 2.(e) Appropriation; Administrative Costs. – There is appropriated from the Ceneral Fund to the Department of Public Instruction for the 2019 2020 fiscal year the sum						
49 50	the General Fund to the Department of Public Instruction for the 2019-2020 fiscal year the sum of seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) in recurring funds to establish and implement						
50	of seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) in recurring funds to establish and implement the program. The Department shall use up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) of these						

4 PART III. EFFECTIVE DATE

SECTION 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 2019.

funds to establish one new, full-time equivalent recruitment and retention coordinator position at

the Department to administer the program.

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