

**STATE  
REVISED FISCAL IMPACT**

(replaces fiscal note dated March 6, 2012)

**Drafting Number:** LLS 12-0494

**Date:** March 13, 2012

**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Solano

**Bill Status:** House Appropriations

**Fiscal Analyst:** Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

**TITLE:** CONCERNING EFFECTIVE EDUCATORS IN LOW-PERFORMING, HIGH-NEEDS SCHOOLS.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2012-2013	FY 2013-2014
<b>State Revenue</b>		
<b>State Expenditures</b> State Education Fund	at least \$1,659,200	at least \$1,940,800
<b>FTE Position Change</b>		
<b>Effective Date:</b> August 8, 2012, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 9, 2012, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.		
<b>Appropriation Summary for FY 2012-2013:</b> See State Appropriations section.		
<b>School District Impact:</b> None.		

**Note:** This fiscal note is being revised based on new information.

**Summary of Legislation**

This bill extends an existing program that requires that the Colorado Department of Education (CDE), subject to available appropriations, award a stipend of \$1,600 to employed public school teachers holding certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). The CDE awards an additional bonus stipend of \$3,200 to certified teachers employed in low-performing, high-needs schools. A low-performing, high-needs school is defined as any school that is accredited with a priority improvement plan or a turnaround plan. A teacher awarded the bonus stipend will continue to receive it as long as he or she remains employed at the school, even if the school achieves a higher accreditation level in subsequent years. The stipend is considered part of the employee's regular salary and prorated for teachers employed less than full-time. Under current law, the program will expire July 1, 2012. This bill makes principals certified by NBPTS eligible for the awards.

**Background**

House Bill 08-1384 established the NBPTS certification award program from FY 2008-09 until FY 2010-11, and appropriated \$1.5 million for the awards in that first year; however, in the following legislative session, Senate Bill 09-214 eliminated the FY 2008-09 appropriation, and made future awards subject to available appropriations. Although the program received some federal money in FY 2009-10, no state appropriations have been made to award the NBPTS teacher bonuses.

## **State Expenditures**

*The bill's expenditures are estimated to be at least \$1.7 million in FY 2012-13, and at least \$1.9 million in FY 2013-14.* The bill requires that the CDE make an annual award of \$1,600 to any employed teacher or principal certified by NBPTS, and an additional award of \$3,200 to those certified teachers and principals employed in low-performing, high-needs schools.

To date, 641 teachers in the state have earned NBPTS certification, and each year the number of certified teachers increases as more teachers become certified, and as currently certified teachers enter the state. For example, from 2011 to 2012, the number of certified teachers increased by 17 percent. Currently, there are 288 NBPTS candidates actively pursuing certification. Assuming half of these candidates achieve certification in FY 2012-13, the combined number of teachers eligible for the base stipend is 785, and the cost is \$1,025,600 ( $785 * \$1,600 = \$1,256,000$ ). Based on current trends, it is estimated that 16 percent, or 126 of these certified teachers also teach in low-performing, high-needs schools, for an additional expense of \$403,200 ( $126 * \$3,200 = \$403,200$ ). Therefore, the total combined cost in FY 2012-13 is at least \$1,659,200.

If the number of certified teachers grows by the same amount next year (17%), there will be 919 certified teachers eligible for the base stipend, and 147 certified teachers eligible for the bonus stipend, for a total combined cost of \$1,940,800.

The National Board is developing a certification credential for school principals, but does not have one yet. In future years, the number of eligible professional educators will increase as this certification becomes available.

## **State Appropriations**

For FY 2012-13, this bill requires an appropriation of \$1,659,200 from the State Education Fund to the Colorado Department of Education.

## **Departments Contacted**

Education

Law