

Senate Bill 318

By: Senators Setzler of the 37th, Dixon of the 45th, Anavitarte of the 31st, Watson of the 1st and Kirkpatrick of the 32nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-212 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 minimum salary schedules in elementary and secondary education, so as to provide that the
3 minimum salaries of special education teachers who meet certain criteria shall be 110 percent
4 of the minimum salary such teacher would otherwise qualify for on the schedule of minimum
5 salaries established by the State Board of Education; to provide for qualifications; to revise
6 provisions for local salary supplements; to provide for legislative intent; to provide for
7 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Code Section 20-2-212 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to minimum
11 salary schedules in elementary and secondary education, is amended by revising subsection
12 (b) and adding a new subsection to read as follows:

13 "(a.1) Beginning in the 2025-2026 school year and continuing thereafter, the schedule of
14 minimum salaries provided for in subsection (a) of this Code section shall provide that the
15 minimum salary for teachers who meet the following criteria shall be 110 percent of the
16 minimum salary for which each such teacher would otherwise qualify based on

17 classification, individual experience, and length of satisfactory service but for the
18 application of this subsection:

19 (1) He or she is currently certified by the Professional Standards Commission in a special
20 education teaching field; and

21 (2) More than 50 percent of his or her assigned duties and responsibilities involve
22 teaching students with disabilities and implementing Individualized Education Programs
23 for such students.

24 (b)(1) Local units of administration may supplement the salaries of personnel subject to
25 the schedule of minimum salaries under ~~subsection a~~ subsections (a) and (a.1) of this
26 Code section and, in fixing the amount of those supplements, may take into consideration
27 the nature of duties to be performed, the responsibility of the position held, the subject
28 matter or grades to be taught, and the experience and performance of the particular
29 employee whose salary is being supplemented. In any fiscal year in which such
30 personnel receive an increase under the minimum salary schedule, a local unit of
31 administration shall not decrease any local salary supplement for such personnel below
32 the local supplement amount received in the immediately preceding fiscal year by those
33 personnel of that local unit of administration unless such local unit of administration has
34 conducted at least two public hearings regarding such decrease, notice of which hearings,
35 including the time, place, agenda, and specific subject matter of the meeting, the local
36 unit shall cause to be published in the legal organ of the county which is the legal situs
37 of such local unit one time at least seven days prior to the date such hearings are to be
38 held. Written notice shall be provided to each employee subject to the schedule of
39 minimum salaries under subsection (a) of this Code section at least seven days prior to
40 the date of the hearings. Each such hearing shall be held and shall commence after
41 school hours to allow certificated and noncertificated personnel to attend.

42 (2) It is the intent of the General Assembly that local units of administration will increase
43 the local salary supplement for qualified special education teachers provided for in
44 subsection (a.1) of this Code section to 110 percent of the local salary supplement for

45 which each such teacher qualifies based on classification, individual experience, and
46 length of satisfactory service."

47

SECTION 2.

48 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.