

SENATE BILL 882

By Akbari

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
Chapter 3, relative to teaching supplies.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-3-359(a), is amended by designating existing language as subdivision (1) and adding the following as a new subdivision (2):

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (a)(1), for the 2023-2024 school year, each LEA must pay six hundred dollars (\$600) for every teacher in kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12). This money must be used by the teachers for instructional supplies and must be given to each teacher by October 31 of each school year so that the teacher may spend it at any time during that school year on instructional supplies as determined necessary by the teacher. The purpose of these funds is to permit purchase of items of equipment for the benefit and enhancement of the instructional program. The funds cannot be used for basic building needs such as HVAC, carpets, furniture, items or equipment for the teachers' lounge, or the like. Any funds not spent by the end of the school year must be pooled at the school level and used for the purchase of items of equipment for the benefit of all teachers. Pooled funds cannot be used for basic building needs such as HVAC, carpets, furniture, items or equipment for the teachers' lounge, or the like.

SECTION 2. This act is not an appropriation of funds, and funds must not be obligated or expended pursuant to this act unless the funds are specifically appropriated by the general appropriations act.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2023, at 12:01 a.m., the public welfare requiring it.