

SENATE BILL 1856

By Crowe

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1; Title 49, Chapter 2; Title 49, Chapter 3 and Title 49, Chapter 5, relative to the compensation of licensed educators.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-302(a)(5)(B), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-302(a), is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

( )

(A) With the assistance of the department of education, promulgate by rule a state salary schedule for the compensation of licensed educators. The rule shall establish a state salary schedule based upon years of service and educational training. The state salary schedule shall contain steps for each year of service up to and including twenty (20) years and for the attainment of advanced degrees at the level of the masters, masters plus forty-five (45) hours of graduate credit, specialist in education and doctor of education or doctor of philosophy. The rule shall state the state contribution, as from time-to-time amended, and a minimum mandated local contribution for each step in the schedule. The rule shall be amended annually to update the state salary schedule;

(B) Place the proposed rule, each year, on the agenda of a meeting of the state board that occurs before July 1;

(C) Timely file the rule with the office of the secretary of state, division of administrative services, as both an emergency rule and a permanent rule so that the emergency rule shall be effective on August 1 of the year in which it is proposed; and

(D) An LEA may apply to the department for a waiver from compliance with the state salary schedule, if the LEA chooses to adopt its own salary standards.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-3-306(a), is amended by deleting the language “The commissioner, as approved by the state board of education,” and by substituting “The state board of education.”

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.