

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001**

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SENATE BILL 769*

Short Title: Teacher Assistants Salary Increase. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Lucas; and Shaw of Cumberland.

Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

April 2, 2001

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A TEACHER ASSISTANT SALARY SCHEDULE.

3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-12(16) reads as rewritten:

5 **"§ 115C-12. Powers and duties of the Board generally.**

6 The general supervision and administration of the free public school system shall be
7 vested in the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall establish
8 policy for the system of free public schools, subject to laws enacted by the General
9 Assembly. The powers and duties of the State Board of Education are defined as
10 follows:

11 ...

12 (16) Power with Regard to Salary Schedules. – The Board shall provide for
13 sick leave with pay for all public school employees in accordance with
14 the provisions of this Chapter and shall promulgate rules and
15 regulations providing for necessary substitutes on account of sick leave
16 and other teacher absences.

17 a. Support personnel refers to all public school employees who are
18 not required by statute or regulation to be certified in order to
19 be employed. The State Board of Education is authorized and
20 empowered to adopt all necessary rules for full implementation
21 of all schedules to the extent that State funds are made available
22 for support personnel.

23 b. Salary schedules for the following public school support
24 personnel shall be adopted by the State Board of Education:
25 school finance officer, office support personnel teacher, ~~teacher~~
26 ~~assistants~~, maintenance supervisors, custodial personnel, and
27 transportation personnel. The Board shall classify these support

1 positions in terms of uniform pay grades included in the salary
2 schedule of the State Personnel Commission.

3 ~~By the end of the third payroll period of the 1995-96 fiscal~~
4 ~~year, local~~Local boards of education shall place State-allotted
5 office support ~~personnel, teacher assistants,~~ personnel and
6 custodial personnel on the salary schedule adopted by the State
7 Board of Education so that the average salary paid is the
8 State-allotted amount for the category. In placing employees on
9 the salary schedule, the local board shall consider the education,
10 training, and experience of each employee, including
11 experience in other local school administrative units. It is the
12 intent of the General Assembly that a local school
13 administrative unit not fail to employ an employee who was
14 employed for the prior school year in order to implement the
15 provisions of this sub-subdivision. A local board of education is
16 in compliance with this sub-subdivision if the average salary
17 paid is ~~at least ninety five percent (95%) of the State allotted~~
18 ~~amount for the category at the end of the third payroll period of~~
19 ~~the 1995-96 fiscal year, and at least ninety-eight percent (98%)~~
20 ~~of the State-allotted amount for the category at the end of the~~
21 ~~third payroll period of each subsequent fiscal year. The~~
22 ~~Department of Public Instruction shall provide technical~~
23 ~~assistance to local school administrative units regarding the~~
24 ~~implementation of this sub-subdivision.~~

25 c. Salary schedules for other support personnel, including but not
26 limited to maintenance and school food service personnel, shall
27 be adopted by the State Board of Education. The Board shall
28 classify these support positions in terms of uniform pay grades
29 included in the salary schedule of the State Personnel
30 Commission. These schedules shall apply if the local board of
31 education does not adopt a salary schedule of its own for
32 personnel paid from other than State appropriations.

33 d. The State Board of Education shall adopt guidelines for the
34 implementation of the teacher assistant salary schedule enacted
35 by the General Assembly.

36 ..."

37 **SECTION 2.(a)** The allotment formula for teacher assistants for the
38 2001-2002 fiscal year shall be a dollar allotment. Local boards of education shall use
39 these funds in the following order of priority:

- 40 (1) To increase the rates of pay for teacher assistants who were employed
41 for fiscal year 2000-2001 and who continue their employment for
42 fiscal year 2001-2002. This increase shall be at least five percent (5%),
43 commencing July 1, 2000, for all such teacher assistants unless a local
44 board of education adopts a policy that provides for raises of less than

1 five percent (5%) for all those teacher assistants who were employed
 2 for less than two-thirds of the employment period for fiscal year
 3 2000-2001 and who continue their employment for fiscal year
 4 2001-2002. A local board of education adopting such a policy shall
 5 increase the salaries of those teacher assistants who were employed for
 6 less than two-thirds of the employment period for fiscal year
 7 2000-2001 in accordance with the local policy; that local board shall
 8 increase the salaries of those teacher assistants who were employed for
 9 two-thirds or more of the employment period for fiscal year 2000-2001
 10 by at least five percent (5%).

11 (2) To begin implementation of the base pay under the salary schedule set
 12 out in subdivision (b)(1) of this section.

13 (3) To provide salary increments to teacher assistants as provided in
 14 subdivision (b)(2) of this section.

15 **SECTION 2.(b)** It is the intent of the General Assembly to adopt, fund, and
 16 implement a minimum salary schedule based on years of experience and level of
 17 certification. The minimum monthly salary of a teacher assistant under this salary
 18 schedule shall be one thousand three hundred eighty dollars (\$1,380).

19 (1) To the extent that teacher assistant salary funds allotted for the
 20 2001-2002 fiscal year are adequate for this purpose after
 21 implementation of the five percent (5%) increase, the following salary
 22 schedule for teacher assistants applies:

Years of Experience	Base Salary (Salary Without a Degree)
1	\$14,255
2	\$14,483
3	\$14,710
4	\$14,948
5	\$15,185
6	\$15,433
7	\$15,681
8	\$15,929
9	\$16,187
10	\$16,445
11	\$16,704
12	\$16,972
13	\$17,241
14	\$17,520
15	\$17,799
16	\$18,088
17	\$18,377
18	\$18,666

1	19	\$18,966
2	20	\$19,265
3	21	\$19,575
4	22+	\$19,885

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6 As used in this section 'years of experience' means years as a teacher or teacher
7 assistant in North Carolina public schools; and

8 (2) To the extent that teacher assistant salary funds allotted for the
9 2001-2002 fiscal year are adequate for this purpose after the
10 implementation of (i) the five percent (5%) increase and (ii) the base
11 salaries contained in this section, a teacher assistant shall receive a
12 salary increment for meeting certification and degree standards as
13 follows:

- 14 a. Teacher Assistant Certificate from a Community College (18
15 credit hours) -- 2%;
- 16 b. Teacher Assistant Diploma from a Community College (48
17 credit hours) -- 4%;
- 18 c. Associate Degree (60 credit hours) -- 6%; and
- 19 d. Bachelors Degree -- 8%.

20 No teacher assistant shall experience a decrease in salary as a result of placement on the
21 schedule.

22 **SECTION 2.(c)** All local boards of education shall verify to the State Board
23 of Education that they are providing a five percent (5%) raise to all teacher assistants.
24 They shall also report on the placement of teacher assistants on the salary schedule.

25 **SECTION 2.(d)** Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the
26 authority of local school administrative units to transfer funds allocated for teacher
27 assistants to teacher positions in accordance with G.S. 115C-105.25(b)(1).

28 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2001.