

602-2141-07

Proposed Committee Substitute by the Committee on Education
Pre-K - 12 Appropriations

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the Florida Teachers Lead

3 Program Stipend; amending s. 1012.71, F.S.;

4 extending the stipend to teachers of

5 prekindergarten students in public schools and

6 public charter schools who are funded through

7 the Florida Education Finance Program;

8 providing an effective date.

9

10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12 Section 1. Section 1012.71, Florida Statutes, is

13 amended to read:

14 1012.71 The Florida Teachers Lead Program Stipend.--

15 (1) Funding for the Florida Teachers Lead Program

16 Stipend shall be as determined by the Legislature in the

17 General Appropriations Act. Funds appropriated for the Florida

18 Teachers Lead Program Stipend are provided to purchase

19 classroom materials and supplies used in the instruction of

20 students in prekindergarten ~~kindergarten~~ through grade 12 of

21 the public school system who are funded from the Florida

22 Education Finance Program, including public charter schools.

23 From the funds appropriated, the Commissioner of Education

24 shall calculate an amount for each school district by

25 prorating the total of each school district's share of the

26 total ~~K-12~~ unweighted FTE student enrollment.

27 (2) From the funds allocated to each district, the

28 district school board shall calculate an identical amount for

29 each classroom teacher which is his or her proportionate share

30 of the amount allocated to the district for the total number

31 of teachers in the district, including teachers in public

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1 charter schools. The district school board and each charter
 2 school board shall provide the funds no later than September
 3 30 of each year directly to each teacher as a stipend to
 4 purchase, on behalf of the school district or charter school,
 5 classroom materials and supplies to be used in the instruction
 6 of students assigned to the teacher. Each teacher shall have
 7 sole discretion regarding which classroom materials and
 8 supplies best meet the needs of the students, when they are
 9 needed, and where they are acquired. The funds expended by
 10 individual teachers shall not be subject to state or local
 11 competitive bidding requirements. Disbursement of Florida
 12 Teachers Lead Program Stipend funds directly to each teacher
 13 and to each charter school shall complete the school
 14 district's expenditure of these funds.

15 (3) Each teacher shall sign a statement acknowledging
 16 receipt of the funds, agreeing to keep receipts to show the
 17 expenditure of the funds used to purchase classroom materials
 18 and supplies for use in the instruction of the students
 19 assigned to them, and agreeing to return any unused funds by
 20 the end of the regular school year. The statement to be signed
 21 and dated by each teacher for receipt of the Florida Teachers
 22 Lead Program Stipend shall include the wording: "I, ...(Name
 23 of teacher)..., am employed by the County District School
 24 Board or by the (Charter School) as a full-time
 25 classroom teacher. I acknowledge that Florida Teachers Lead
 26 Program Stipend funds are appropriated by the Legislature for
 27 the sole purpose of purchasing classroom materials and
 28 supplies to be used in the instruction of students assigned to
 29 me. In accepting custody of these funds, I agree to keep
 30 receipts for all expenditures. I understand that if I do not
 31 keep receipts showing these funds were spent to purchase

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1 classroom materials and supplies for use with my students, it
 2 will be my personal responsibility to pay any federal taxes
 3 due on these funds. I also agree to return any unused funds to
 4 the district school board at the end of the regular school
 5 year for deposit into the School Advisory Council account of
 6 the school at which I was employed at the time of the receipt
 7 of the funds or for deposit into the district's teacher lead
 8 program account of the district in which the charter school is
 9 sponsored, as applicable."

10 (4) Florida Teachers Lead Program Stipend funds shall
 11 be provided to each teacher in addition to any other funds
 12 appropriated for public school operations.

13 (5) Any unused funds that ~~which~~ are returned to the
 14 district school board shall be deposited into the School
 15 Advisory Council account of the school at which the teacher
 16 returning the funds was employed at the time of the receipt of
 17 the funds or for deposit into the district's teacher lead
 18 program account of the district in which the charter school is
 19 sponsored, as applicable.

20 (6) For purposes of this section, the term "classroom
 21 teacher" includes certified teachers employed by a public
 22 school district or a public charter school on or before
 23 September 1 of each year whose full-time job responsibility is
 24 the classroom instruction of students in prekindergarten
 25 ~~kindergarten~~ through grade 12, including ~~and~~ full-time media
 26 specialists and guidance counselors who serve students in
 27 prekindergarten ~~kindergarten~~ through grade 12 who are funded
 28 through the Florida Education Finance Program. Only school
 29 district and public charter school personnel employed in these
 30 positions are eligible for the classroom materials and supply
 31 stipend from funds appropriated to implement the provisions of

Bill No. CS for SB 450

Barcode 233048

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