

By Senator Soto

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to teacher salaries; creating s.
3 1012.052, F.S.; providing a short title; requiring the
4 Legislature to fund the Florida Education Finance
5 Program at a level that ensures a guaranteed minimum
6 annual starting salary for instructional personnel;
7 specifying a statewide minimum salary for all
8 instructional personnel for the 2015-2016 fiscal year;
9 requiring the Department of Education to annually
10 adjust the minimum starting salary; providing a
11 formula for calculating such adjustment; requiring
12 district school boards to adjust the minimum starting
13 salary determined by the department by applying the
14 district cost differential; providing that such
15 adjustment may not reduce starting salaries below the
16 statewide minimum; providing an effective date.

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

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20 Section 1. Section 1012.052, Florida Statutes, is created
21 to read:

22 1012.052 Instructional personnel salary.-

23 (1) This section may be cited as the "Florida Teacher Fair
24 Pay Act."

25 (2) In order to attract and retain instructional personnel,
26 the Legislature shall fund the Florida Education Finance Program
27 in a manner that ensures that collectively bargained salary
28 schedules for instructional personnel are funded at a level that
29 guarantees a minimum annual starting salary, while maintaining

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30 adequate funding for all other education program areas and
31 personnel.

32 (a) For the 2015-2016 fiscal year, the statewide minimum
33 salary for all instructional personnel is \$50,000. By November 1
34 of each fiscal year thereafter, the Department of Education
35 shall calculate an adjusted minimum starting salary for the
36 upcoming fiscal year by increasing the minimum then in force by
37 the rate of inflation for the 12 months before September 1. In
38 making this calculation, the department shall use the Consumer
39 Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, not
40 seasonally adjusted, for the South Region or a successor index
41 as calculated by the United States Department of Labor.

42 (b) Each district school board shall adjust the statewide
43 minimum starting salary calculated by the department by applying
44 the district cost differential as provided in s. 1011.62(2).
45 However, application of the district cost differential may not
46 decrease the minimum starting salary in that district below the
47 statewide minimum.

48 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.