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HOUSE BILL 2787

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State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Fortunato, Ruderman, Van Luven, Keiser, Cairnes, Hurst, Schual-Berke, Kenney, Edmonds, Esser, Edwards, Santos and McIntire

Read first time 01/20/2000. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to a housing affordability salary supplement for  
2 teachers; adding a new section to chapter 28A.400 RCW; and creating a  
3 new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature to  
6 ensure that the common schools have an adequate supply of classroom  
7 teachers. The legislature finds that the price of housing is  
8 significantly higher in certain areas of the state than in other areas  
9 of the state. The legislature further finds that the percentage of  
10 salary required to procure housing in these areas is significantly  
11 greater for those teachers who receive salaries at the level provided  
12 to less experienced teachers on the state salary schedule. Therefore,  
13 the legislature finds that there is a need to provide a housing  
14 supplement to the salaries of low-salaried teachers in areas of the  
15 state that are most impacted by housing affordability issues.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.400  
17 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) To address extraordinary housing costs for teachers who reside  
2 in certain areas and who receive salaries at the level provided to less  
3 experienced teachers on the state salary schedule, a housing  
4 affordability salary supplement is provided, subject to funding in the  
5 omnibus appropriations act.

6 (2) To be eligible for the supplement, a district must be:

7 (a) Among the quartile of districts that can raise a ten percent  
8 maintenance and operating levy based on the lowest property tax rate;  
9 and

10 (b) Located wholly or partly within a county that is above the  
11 state average in the cost of housing rental rates for a two bedroom  
12 residence, as measured by the housing and urban development fair market  
13 rent data.

14 (3) Teachers in eligible districts shall receive the salary  
15 supplement during each school year that the teacher is placed in any of  
16 the first five years of the state salary schedule.

17 (4) The supplement shall equal the difference between the rental  
18 rate for the county and the state average rental rate. The supplement  
19 shall be calculated on an annual basis before the beginning of the  
20 school year for each school year, based on the data from the previous  
21 year. The minimum annual supplement is ten dollars. For annual  
22 supplements between ten and one hundred dollars, the total supplement  
23 for each teacher must be paid in the first month supplements are paid.  
24 Annual supplements in excess of one hundred dollars shall be allocated  
25 and paid on a monthly basis during the school year that the teacher is  
26 eligible.

27 (5) The housing affordability salary supplement provided under this  
28 section shall not be considered part of the state's obligation to fund  
29 basic education.

30 (6) If the legislature revokes any benefits granted under this  
31 section, no affected employee is entitled to receive such benefits as  
32 a matter of contractual right.

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