

REFERENCE TITLE: school teachers; minimum salary

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Forty-eighth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2008

## **SB 1226**

Introduced by  
Senator O'Halleran

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-502, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION;  
RELATING TO SCHOOL EMPLOYEES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 15-502, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 15-502. Employment of school district personnel: payment of  
5 wages of discharged employee

6 A. The governing board may at any time employ and fix the salaries and  
7 benefits of employees necessary for the succeeding year. The contracts of  
8 all certificated employees shall be in writing, and all employees shall be  
9 employed subject to ~~the provisions of~~ section 38-481. The governing board  
10 may obtain the services of any employee, including teachers, substitute  
11 teachers and administrators, by contracting with a private entity that  
12 employs personnel required by the school district.

13 B. A teacher shall not be employed if the teacher has not received a  
14 certificate for teaching granted by the proper authorities. If a teacher has  
15 filed an application and completed all of the requirements for a certificate  
16 but time does not allow a teacher to receive a certificate before the  
17 commencement of employment, the conditional certificate shall serve as a  
18 certificate for the payment of wages, provided that the teacher files the  
19 conditional certificate with the county school superintendent and the  
20 certificate is issued within three months of the date of commencing  
21 employment. In order to be paid wages beyond the three month period  
22 prescribed in this subsection, the teacher shall file the certificate with  
23 the county school superintendent. Any contract issued to a teacher who has  
24 completed certificate requirements but has not received a certificate shall  
25 be specifically contingent upon receipt of such a certificate. The governing  
26 board of a school district that is subject to section 15-914.01 shall adhere  
27 to the duties described in section 15-302, subsection A, paragraph 9 for  
28 purposes of this subsection.

29 C. No dependent, as defined in section 43-1001, of a governing board  
30 member may be employed in the school district in which the person to whom  
31 such dependent is so related is a governing board member, except by consent  
32 of the board.

33 D. The governing board may employ certificated teachers under contract  
34 as part-time classroom teachers. Notwithstanding any other statute, a  
35 certificated teacher who has been employed by the school district for more  
36 than the major portion of three consecutive school years does not lose the  
37 entitlement to the procedures prescribed in sections 15-538.01, 15-539  
38 through 15-544 and 15-547 if the teacher is employed under contract on a  
39 part-time basis for at least forty per cent time. ~~As used in~~ **FOR THE**  
40 **PURPOSES OF** this subsection, "forty per cent time" means employed for at  
41 least forty per cent of the school day required of full-time teachers of the  
42 same grade level or for at least forty per cent of the class load assigned to  
43 full-time teachers of the same grade level, as determined by the governing  
44 board.

1 E. Notwithstanding sections 23-351 and 23-353, if an employee is  
2 discharged from the service of a school district, the school district shall  
3 pay the wages due to the employee within ten calendar days from the date of  
4 discharge.

5 F. Each school district shall establish policies and procedures to  
6 provide teachers with personal liability insurance.

7 G. THE MINIMUM BASE SALARY FOR A FULL-TIME TEACHER EMPLOYED BY A  
8 SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL BE THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS PER YEAR. ALL  
9 CERTIFICATED TEACHERS WITH BASE SALARIES THAT MEET OR EXCEED THIRTY-FIVE  
10 THOUSAND DOLLARS AS WELL AS ALL OTHER SCHOOL EMPLOYEES SHALL RECEIVE AT LEAST  
11 A TWO PER CENT BASE SALARY INCREASE. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION,  
12 BASE SALARY DOES NOT INCLUDE PERFORMANCE PAY.

13 Sec. 2. Appropriation; teacher and school employee salaries;  
14 exemption

15 A. The sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is appropriated from the state general fund  
16 in fiscal year 2008-2009 to the state board of education to increase the  
17 school district base support level to \_\_\_\_ per cent in order to carry out the  
18 purposes of section 15-502, subsection G, Arizona Revised Statutes, as  
19 amended by this act.

20 B. These monies shall supplement and not supplant any compensation  
21 increases previously negotiated and shall be in addition to other raises that  
22 are customarily provided to teachers and school employees from school  
23 district discretionary monies, including inflationary increases as mandated  
24 by law or that result from student growth and teacher compensation increases  
25 pursuant to section 15-977, Arizona Revised Statutes.

26 C. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section is exempt  
27 from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating to  
28 the lapsing of appropriations.