

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R3469 CAS-D

S.B. 238
By: Ellis
Education
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As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, Texas law requires school districts to pay teachers salaries based on years of experience as set forth in the minimum schedule in state law. Many districts pay amounts above the minimum schedule, but these supplemental amounts are based on experience rather than merit. S.B. 238 would establish performance bonuses for certain public school teachers.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 238 establishes performance bonuses for certain public school teachers.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 21I, Education Code, by adding Section 21.4031, as follows:

Sec. 21.4031. PERFORMANCE BONUS. Requires a school district to pay each classroom teacher a performance bonus for a school year in which the performance rating of a school campus under Chapter 39 improves from a low-performing rating. Sets forth amounts and conditions for the performance bonus. Provides that the bonus is in addition to any other compensation the district would otherwise pay the teacher. Provides that a school district is required to pay the bonuses only if state appropriations are provided for that purpose. Establishes that if the amount appropriated is not sufficient to pay a performance bonus, the district may reduce the amount of the bonus in proportion to the amount by which the amount appropriated is insufficient.

SECTION 2. Provides that this Act applies to performance bonuses for public school teachers beginning with performance ratings for the 1999-2000 school year.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.