

House Bill 280 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Coleman of the 97th, Ramsey of the 72nd, Cole of the 125th, Pruett of the 144th, Lindsey of the 54th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 6 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to employment under the "Quality Basic Education Act," so as to provide
3 for additional compensation for teachers in mathematics or science under certain conditions;
4 to provide for standards for mathematics and science endorsements; to provide for related
5 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Part 6 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
9 relating to employment under the "Quality Basic Education Act," is amended by adding a
10 new Code section to read as follows:

11 "20-2-212.5.

12 (a)(1) On and after July 1, 2010, and until such date as may be determined by the State
13 Board of Education that mathematics, science, or both are no longer areas in which there
14 is an insufficient supply of teachers, a secondary school teacher in a local school system
15 who is or becomes certified in mathematics or science by the Professional Standards
16 Commission shall be moved to the salary step on the state salary schedule that is
17 applicable to six years of creditable service, unless he or she is already on or above such
18 salary step. From such salary step, the teacher shall be attributed one additional year of
19 creditable service on the salary schedule each year for five years.

20 (2) After five years, such teacher may continue to be attributed one additional year of
21 creditable service on the salary schedule each year if he or she meets or exceeds student
22 achievement criteria established by the Office of Student Achievement.

23 (3) Upon expiration of five years, or any year thereafter that the teacher does not meet
24 or exceed student achievement criteria as required by paragraph (2) of this subsection,
25 such teacher shall be moved to the salary step applicable to the actual number of years
26 of creditable service which the teacher has accumulated.

27 (b)(1)(A) On and after July 1, 2010, a kindergarten or elementary school teacher in a
28 local school system who receives an endorsement in mathematics, science, or both from
29 the Professional Standards Commission shall receive a stipend of \$1,000.00 per
30 endorsement for each year each such endorsement is in effect, up to a maximum of five
31 years.

32 (B) After five years, such teacher may continue to receive such stipend if he or she
33 meets or exceeds student achievement criteria established by the Office of Student
34 Achievement.

35 (C) Upon expiration of five years, or any year thereafter that such a teacher does not
36 meet or exceed student achievement as required by subparagraph (B) of this paragraph,
37 such teacher shall cease to receive the stipend.

38 (D) This paragraph shall be subject to appropriations by the General Assembly.

39 (2)(A) In order to qualify for the stipend pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection,
40 math and science endorsements shall:

41 (i) Be based on post-baccalaureate nondegree programs, independent of an initial
42 preparation program in early childhood education;

43 (ii) Consist of a minimum of three courses, of which two courses shall be focused on
44 the advancement of content knowledge and one course, or any additional course, shall
45 be focused on content-specific pedagogy and proven strategies for teaching math or
46 science to children in kindergarten through fifth grade; and

47 (iii) Include an authentic residency experience with a focus on application of
48 knowledge and skills.

49 (B) The Professional Standards Commission shall establish standards for the math and
50 science endorsements provided for in this subsection."

51 **SECTION 2.**

52 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.