A BILL FOR AN ACT

CONCERNING ANNUAL STIPENDS FOR CERTAIN NATIONALLY CERTIFIED SCHOOL PROFESSIONALS.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at http://leg.colorado.gov.)

The bill adds nationally certified school psychologists as school professionals eligible for annual stipends awarded by the department of education (department) if the school psychologist meets the requirements set forth in the bill.

The bill clarifies that school counselors are school professionals who have been eligible for annual stipends awarded by the department...
pursuant to the same requirements for teachers and principals.

The bill corrects the name of the national board for professional teaching standards by removing the word "principal" from the title.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-2-504, amend (1), (2), and (4) as follows:

22-2-504. National certification compensation - definition - study. (1) Beginning with the 2009-10 school year FOR TEACHERS, SCHOOL COUNSELORS, AND PRINCIPALS WHO HOLD A CERTIFICATION FROM THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS, AND SCHOOL COUNSELORS WHO HOLD A CERTIFICATION FROM THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR CERTIFIED COUNSELORS, AND BEGINNING WITH THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR FOR NATIONALLY CERTIFIED SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS WHO HOLD A CERTIFICATION FROM THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS, COLLECTIVELY REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS "SCHOOL PROFESSIONALS", the department, subject to available appropriations, shall award an annual stipend of one thousand six hundred dollars to any teacher or principal SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL who is employed in a school district, a program operated by a board of cooperative services, a charter school authorized by a school district pursuant to part 1 of article 30.5 of this title TITLE 22, or a charter school authorized by the state charter school institute pursuant to part 5 of article 30.5 of this title, and who holds a certification from the national board for professional teaching or principal standards TITLE 22. For any stipends that are awarded, the department shall allocate the stipend money to the school district that employs the teacher or principal SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL who is to receive the stipend, and the school district shall
then make payment directly to the eligible teacher or principal. A school district may, at its discretion, withhold any required employer retirement and medicare contributions associated with the stipend pursuant to this section from the one thousand six hundred dollar stipend amount. For any stipends that are awarded, the stipend shall be:

(a) Payable on May 1, 2009, and each May 1 thereafter, for nationally certified teachers, school counselors, and principals;

(b) Payable on May 1, 2020, and each May 1 thereafter, for nationally certified school psychologists;

(c) Prorated for less than full-time employment;

(d) Considered regular salary under PURSUANT TO section 24-51-101 (42)(a); C.R.S.; and

(e) In addition to, and not in lieu of, any existing compensation being awarded at the local level to a teacher or principal who holds a certification from the national board for professional teaching or principal standards.

(2) Beginning with the 2009-10 school year for nationally certified teachers, school counselors, and principals, and beginning with the 2019-20 school year for nationally certified school psychologists, subject to available appropriations, an additional annual stipend of three thousand two hundred dollars shall be awarded to any teacher or principal who meets the criteria set forth in subsection (1) of this section and who is employed as of May 1 in a given school year in a low-performing, high-needs school. Subject to available appropriations, a teacher or principal.
shall continue to receive the additional stipend award pursuant to this subsection (2) if the SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL remains employed in a school that was previously a low-performing, high-needs school but improved sufficiently to implement an improvement or performance plan pursuant to section 22-11-210. The additional stipend for such teachers and principals shall be. A SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL IS subject to the same restrictions and requirements as set forth in subsection (1) of this section.

(4) If insufficient funding is available to award a stipend pursuant to subsection (1) of this section to all teachers and principals who hold a certification from the national board for professional teaching or principal standards, stipends shall be awarded only to those teachers and principals who meet the criteria of subsection (1) of this section and who are employed in a low-performing, high-needs school.

SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 2, 2019, if adjournment sine die is on May 3, 2019); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.