

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 618

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEOPOLD

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

SCHOOLS/EMPLOYEES: Provides relative to salary supplements for public school educational diagnosticians

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:421.13, relative to educational diagnosticians; to provide for a salary  
3 supplement for certain public school educational diagnosticians who have acquired  
4 certification by the National Certification for Educational Diagnosticians' Board; to  
5 provide conditions and guidelines for receiving the supplement; to provide  
6 conditions; to provide definitions; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for  
7 related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:421.13 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §421.13. Supplements to salaries of school educational diagnosticians having  
11 certain credentials issued by the National Certification for Educational  
12 Diagnosticians' Board

13 A. A full-time school educational diagnostician who holds a valid Louisiana  
14 teaching certificate or ancillary certificate, an educational diagnostician certification  
15 approved and issued by the state Department of Education, and a Nationally  
16 Certified Educational Diagnostician credential issued by the National Certification  
17 for Educational Diagnosticians' Board and who is employed by a school board to  
18 provide educational diagnostic services to students or to provide supervision of any  
19 kind to educational diagnosticians shall receive from the school board, in addition

1        to an annual salary, an annual amount of five thousand dollars with such additional  
2        amount to be distributed in the same manner as the annual salary.

3                B.(1) Any educational diagnostician who meets the requirements of  
4        Subsection A of this Section and who has been verified to have been awarded the  
5        Nationally Certified Educational Diagnostician credential issued by the National  
6        Certification for Educational Diagnosticians' Board shall be paid the initial  
7        supplement beginning in the school year immediately following the school year in  
8        which he is awarded the credential if he submits appropriate documentation to the  
9        employing school board.

10               (2) The school board shall maintain documentation indicating the number  
11        of holders of the National Certification for Educational Diagnosticians' credential  
12        employed within each local education agency who are receiving supplement.

13               C. A school board shall budget, receive, and expend federal funds that are  
14        or may be allocated to implement the provisions of this Section.

15               D. In addition to any other requirements of this Section, to receive the salary  
16        supplement provided by this Section for the fall school term of the 2014-2015 school  
17        year, an otherwise eligible person shall have been awarded the initial credential  
18        issued by the National Certification for Educational Diagnosticians' Board before  
19        July 1, 2013, and shall provide documentation of validity to the school board prior  
20        to September 1, 2013.

21               E. The salary supplement of any educational diagnostician authorized by this  
22        Section shall continue for a period not to exceed the term of the national credential  
23        as determined by the National Certification for Educational Diagnosticians' Board;  
24        however, such supplement shall continue in effect without interruption as long as the  
25        educational diagnostician provides to the school board documentation of credential  
26        renewal by the National Certification for Educational Diagnosticians' Board.

27               F. For the purposes of this Section, "school board" shall mean the governing  
28        authority of any city, parish, or other local public elementary or secondary school.

1           Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
2 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
3 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
4 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
5 effective on the day following such approval.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Leopold

HB No. 618

**Abstract:** Provides that certain educational diagnosticians who hold a valid La. teaching certificate, state educational diagnostician certification, and the Nationally Certified Educational Diagnostician (NCED) credential may receive an annual salary supplement of \$5,000.

Proposed law provides that a full-time school educational diagnostician in a public school in La. shall qualify to receive a \$5,000 annual stipend if he meets the following criteria:

- (1) Holds a valid La. teaching certificate or ancillary certificate.
- (2) Is an educational diagnostician certified by the state Dept. of Education.
- (3) Holds a Nationally Certified Educational Diagnostician credential issued by the National Certification for Educational Diagnosticians' Board.
- (4) Is employed by a school board to provide educational diagnostic services to students or to provide supervision to educational diagnosticians.

Provides that the initial supplement may be paid beginning in the school year immediately following the school year in which the credential is awarded if the employee submits appropriate documentation to the employing school board.

Provides that the salary supplement shall continue for a period not to exceed the term of the national credential as determined by the National Certification for Educational Diagnosticians' Board and shall continue without interruption as long as the educational diagnostician provides to the school board documentation of credential renewal by the National Certification for Educational Diagnosticians' Board.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 17:421.13)