

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 84th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2003

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2536

4  
5 By: Representative Cleveland  
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7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8  
9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS TEACHER SALARY AND  
10 COMPENSATION STUDY COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER  
11 PURPOSES.  
12

## Subtitle

13  
14 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS TEACHER  
15 SALARY AND COMPENSATION STUDY  
16 COMMISSION.  
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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21 SECTION 1. (a)(1) There is established a commission to be known as  
22 the "Arkansas Teacher Salary and Compensation Study Commission".

23 (b) The commission shall consist of six (6) members, as follows:

24 (1) Two (2) members appointed by the Governor as follows:

25 (A) One (1) person who is an economist; and

26 (B) One (1) person selected from a list of no less than  
27 five (5) names submitted by the Arkansas Association of Educational  
28 Administrators no later than five (5) days from the effective date of this  
29 act;

30 (2) Two (2) members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of  
31 the Senate, as follows:

32 (A) One (1) person who is an economist; and

33 (B) One (1) person selected from a list of no less than  
34 five (5) names submitted by the Arkansas Education Association no later than  
35 five (5) days from the effective date of this act; and

36 (3) Two (2) members appointed by the Speaker of the House of



1 Representatives, as follows:

2 (A) One (1) person who is an economist; and

3 (B) One (1) person selected from a list of no less than  
4 five (5) names submitted by the Arkansas School Boards Association, no later  
5 than five (5) days from the effective date of this act.

6 (c) The appointed commission members shall be residents of the State  
7 of Arkansas at the time of appointment and throughout their term.

8 (d)(1) All appointments shall be made no later than ten (10) days  
9 after the effective date of this act.

10 (2) If any association fails to submit a list within five (5)  
11 days from the effective date of this act, the appointing official who did not  
12 receive a list may make an appointment from the state at large.

13 (e)(1) If a vacancy occurs in an appointed position, for any reason,  
14 the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the official that made the  
15 appointment.

16 (2) The new appointee shall serve for the remainder of the  
17 unexpired term.

18 (f) The economist appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
19 Representatives shall serve as chairperson.

20 (g)(1) The commission shall meet at such times and places the  
21 chairperson deems necessary, but no meetings shall be held outside of the  
22 State of Arkansas.

23 (2) The chairperson shall call an organizational meeting no less  
24 than ten (10) days after all the members are appointed.

25 (3) Three (3) of the members of the commission shall constitute  
26 a quorum for the purpose of transacting business.

27 (4) All action of the commission shall be by a quorum.

28 (h) The commission shall:

29 (1) Develop market studies to define the amount of compensation  
30 and types of benefits that will be necessary to recruit and retain teachers  
31 for the state;

32 (2) Develop strategies for teacher salaries that would provide  
33 the state with a procedure to provide substantially equal teachers' salaries  
34 throughout the state, taking into consideration the cost of living in various  
35 parts of the state and other economic factors;

36 (3) Design plans for correcting disparities in teachers'

1 salaries throughout the state;

2 (4) Recommend a starting salary and benefits that would make  
 3 Arkansas competitive with other states for recruitment purposes;

4 (5) Equate any recommended teacher compensation package with  
 5 that offered by surrounding states; and

6 (6) Provide a report to the chair of the House Committee on  
 7 Education, or any interim committee thereof, the chair of the Senate  
 8 Committee on Education, the chair of the House Interim Committee on  
 9 Education, the chair of the Senate Committee on Education, the Joint  
 10 Committee on Educational Adequacy, and the Governor by June 25, 2003, and no  
 11 less than quarterly thereafter or as requested by any legislative committee  
 12 or the Governor.

13 (i)(1) The Department of Higher Education shall provide staff and  
 14 office space to the commission.

15 (2)(A)(i) The economist members of the commission shall be  
 16 entitled to compensation at their regular hourly rate not to exceed twenty-  
 17 five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per fiscal year, for attendance at meetings  
 18 and work performed for the benefit of the committee, to be paid by the  
 19 Department of Education.

20 (ii) The noneconomist members of the commission  
 21 shall serve without pay.

22 (B) All members of the commission may receive expense  
 23 reimbursement in accordance with Arkansas Code § 25-16-902, to be paid by the  
 24 Department of Higher Education.

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