

SESSION OF 2008

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2870

As Amended by House Committee on
Education

Brief*

HB 2870, as amended, would allow a school district to pay a teacher endorsed and teaching in the disciplines of mathematics or science in grades nine through 12 an incentive or bonus which would be equal to at least 5.0 percent of the amount of base salary paid to other teachers with similar qualifications, but who are not endorsed in mathematics or science. Any school district paying such an incentive or bonus would be eligible to apply for a grant from the State Board of Education not to exceed \$1,000 to provide a stipend to mathematics or science teachers.

The bill would add an additional weighting to the School District Finance and Quality Performance Act. This new weighting would be called the mentor teacher weighting. The mentor teacher weighting would be determined by the State Board of Education in an amount equal to a factor of .23 multiplied by the Base State Aid Per Pupil which would be provided to individual school districts in the form of General State Aid. School districts would then provide a stipend to each mentor teacher in an amount equal to .23 multiplied by the Base State Aid Per Pupil.

Background

The bill was supported by Representative Aurand and a representative of the Kansas Association of School Boards. A representative of the Kansas National Education Association opposed the bill.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

The House Committee on Education amended the bill by striking the provision authorizing districts to pay employment incentives or retention bonuses since that authority already exists under KSA 72-8246. The Committee also amended the bill to provide that the stipends paid by the State would be available for teachers in grades nine through 12. The Committee also added an amendment to convert the funding of the Mentor Teacher Program from a grant program to a weighting under the School Finance Law.

A fiscal note for the amended bill was not available.