

## 1 SENATE BILL NO. 88

2 INTRODUCED BY T. FACEY

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT INCREASING PROFESSIONAL STIPENDS FOR CERTIFIED  
5 TEACHERS; AND AMENDING SECTION 20-4-134, MCA."

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7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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9 **Section 1.** Section 20-4-134, MCA, is amended to read:10 **"20-4-134. Professional stipends for teachers certified by national board for professional teaching**11 **standards.** (1) Pursuant to subsection (4), a one-time stipend of ~~\$3,000~~ \$5,000 must be provided to each teacher  
12 who obtains certification from the national board for professional teaching standards if the teacher is:13 (a) a full-time classroom teacher, librarian, or other full-time employee serving in an assignment covered  
14 by national board certification assessment;

15 (b) certified to teach in Montana under the provisions of 20-4-103; and

16 (c) a full-time employee of:

17 (i) a Montana public school district, as defined in 20-6-101;

18 (ii) an education cooperative, as described in 20-7-451;

19 (iii) the Montana school for the deaf and blind, as described in 20-8-101; or

20 (iv) a state youth correctional facility, as defined in 41-5-103.

21 (2) A teacher is eligible for the stipend in the school year beginning July 1 after the teacher obtains  
22 certification from the national board for professional teaching standards.23 (3) By March 1, the superintendent of public instruction shall distribute stipend payments to each eligible  
24 teacher.25 (4) The obligation for funding the professional stipend is an obligation of the state. This section may not  
26 be construed to require a school district to provide a stipend to a qualifying teacher without a payment from the  
27 state to the district. If the funding for professional stipends is less than the total amount for which Montana  
28 teachers qualify, the superintendent of public instruction shall prorate the funding to the districts in a manner that  
29 provides the same amount of stipend to each qualifying teacher."

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