

By: Seliger

S.B. No. 398

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to professional staff salaries paid by certain school districts.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter I, Chapter 21, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 21.4021 to read as follows:

Sec. 21.4021. SALARIES IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS. (a) A school district that pays each classroom teacher, full-time librarian, full-time counselor certified under Subchapter B, or full-time school nurse a greater amount than the minimum monthly salary to which the employee is entitled under Section 21.402 is not required by this code to provide annual pay increases based on the employee's level of experience.

(b) A school district described by this section may, in addition to any other salary arrangement permissible under law, establish a local minimum hiring schedule that prescribes the minimum salary, based on the employee's level of experience, that the district will pay a new employee, without prescribing a minimum salary applicable to subsequent years of that employee's employment with the district.

(c) If the minimum salaries prescribed by Section 21.402 are increased and the state provides additional funding for the amount of that increase, a school district described by this section is not required to pay an employee more than the sum of the additional

1 funding per employee provided by the state and the employee's  
2 salary for the school year immediately preceding the school year  
3 for which the additional state funding is provided.

4 (d) To the extent of any conflict between this section and  
5 Section 21.402, Section 21.402 prevails.

6 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2009-2010  
7 school year.

8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
9 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
10 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
11 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
12 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.