

1 AN ACT concerning teacher incentives.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section
5 2-3.131 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.131 new)

7 Sec. 2-3.131. Quality teacher incentive program.

8 (a) The State Board of Education shall implement and
9 administer a quality teacher incentive program. Under this
10 program, the State Board of Education shall provide, from
11 appropriations made for the purposes of this Section, a
12 signing bonus of \$1,500 to each eligible teacher.

13 (b) A teacher is eligible under this program if the
14 person has graduated from a regionally accredited institution
15 in the top 25% of his or her class, has an Initial Teaching
16 Certificate with a special certification designation for
17 mathematics or science, and agrees to teach the subject of
18 mathematics or science, whichever is applicable, in a public
19 school in this State for a minimum of 3 consecutive years.

20 (c) A teacher who has received a signing bonus under
21 this program and leaves employment with the public school
22 before the end of the 3-year commitment must reimburse the
23 State in the amount of \$1,500, unless the teacher has left to
24 accept a teaching position with another public school in this
25 State.

26 (d) A teacher who receives a signing bonus under this
27 program shall not be deemed an employee of the State.

28 (e) The State Board of Education may adopt any rules
29 necessary to carry out its responsibilities under this
30 Section.

1 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect on
2 July 1, 2003.