

Senate Bill No. 431

(By Senators Kessler, Unger, Beach, Facemire, Kirkendoll, Laird, Miller, Romano, Snyder,
Stollings, Williams, Woelfel, Yost and Palumbo)

[Introduced February 6, 2015; referred to the Committee on Education; and then to the
Committee on Finance.]

**FISCAL
NOTE**

A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
designated §18A-4-1b, relating to increasing pay to teachers over a five-year period.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new
section, designated §18A-4-1b, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 4. SALARIES, WAGES AND OTHER BENEFITS.

§18A-4-1b. Graduated salary increase for teachers beginning in 2015.

The Legislature hereby finds that in order to provide a quality free education to the children
of West Virginia, we must pay teachers a competitive salary. Paying teachers a competitive salary
will ensure that we are able to keep the best and brightest teachers here in West Virginia, rather than
leaving for additional pay in another state. Paying teachers a competitive salary will also provide
an incentive for students choosing a career to give further consideration to teaching. Paying teachers
a competitive salary will create an additional reason that a strong teacher from another area of the

1 country may choose to move to West Virginia and teach in our school system. Accordingly, the
2 Legislature further finds that it is imperative to the well-being of the state that we increase teacher
3 salaries in order to provide our students with the best possible education. Therefore, the following
4 adjustments to the state minimum salaries for teachers shall be made:

5 (1) Beginning July 1, 2015, the state minimum salaries for teachers shall be in accordance
6 with section two of this article, plus an additional \$1,000.

7 (2) Beginning July 1, 2016, the state minimum salaries for teachers shall be in accordance
8 with section two of this article, plus an additional \$2,500.

9 (3) Beginning July 1, 2017, the state minimum salaries for teachers shall be in accordance
10 with section two of this article, plus an additional \$5,000.

11 (4) Beginning July 1, 2018, the state minimum salaries for teachers shall be in accordance
12 with section two of this article, plus an additional \$7,500.

13 (5) Beginning July 1, 2019, and continuing thereafter, the state minimum salaries for teachers
14 shall be in accordance with section two of this article, plus an additional \$10,000.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide for graduated increases to teachers salaries over the next five years such that after five years teachers receive a salary that is \$10,000 greater than their current salary.

§18A-4-1b is new; therefore, strike-throughs and underscoring have been omitted.