DIGEST

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Jones HB No. 540

Abstract: Removes a deadline for school teachers, counselors, and psychologists to receive professional credentials in order to qualify for a stipend.

<u>Present law</u> relative to school teachers, counselors, and psychologists who have appropriate credentials from the state of La. and a national board, provides for an annual salary supplement, more specifically as follows:

- (1) Teachers with a certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards are eligible for an annual amount not less than \$5,000.
- (2) School counselors with a National Certified School Counselor credential issued by the National Board for Certified Counselors are eligible for an annual amount of \$5,000.
- (3) School psychologists with a National Certified School Psychologist credential issued by the National School Psychology Certification Board are eligible for an annual amount not to exceed \$5,000.

<u>Present law</u> provides that all such salary supplements are subject to appropriation of funds for the purpose and provides for reimbursement of the appropriate school board by the Dept. of Education from appropriated funds.

Proposed law retains present law.

<u>Present law</u> requires initial receipt of the applicable certificate or credential by July 1, 2013, for any individual to be eligible for the salary supplement. <u>Proposed law</u> repeals <u>present law</u>.

(Amends R.S. 17:421.8(A); Repeals R.S. 17:421.6(C) and 421.9(G))