



Sen. Meg Loughran Cappel

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10400HB5321sam001

LRB104 20507 LNS 37397 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 5321

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend House Bill 5321 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section  
5 24-8.2 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/24-8.2 new)

7 Sec. 24-8.2. Continuing education coursework used for  
8 salary increases.

9 (a) In this Section:

10 "Continuing education coursework" means any  
11 graduate-level, degree-eligible credit course taught by an  
12 instructor of record and completed by a licensed classroom  
13 teacher for the purpose of salary advancement or other  
14 compensation-related advancement under a collective bargaining  
15 agreement, school district employment contract, school board  
16 policy, or salary schedule. "Continuing education coursework"

1 includes professional development sequences that are taken or  
2 completed and are approved by the State Board of Education or  
3 an industry-recognized credential, including a credential for  
4 career and technical educators.

5 "Graduate-level, degree-eligible credit" means academic  
6 credit documented on an official academic transcript through a  
7 regionally accredited institution of higher education that may  
8 be applied toward a master's degree, education specialist  
9 degree, or doctoral degree.

10 "Instructor of record" means an individual assigned the  
11 responsibility for academic oversight of a continuing  
12 education course, including instruction, evaluation and  
13 feedback of participant work, and the assignment of grades,  
14 who:

15 (1) is a credentialed educator holding a master's  
16 degree or higher and is academically qualified to teach  
17 the continuing education course, with demonstrated  
18 experience in the content area or areas of the continuing  
19 education course;

20 (2) provides substantive instructional support to a  
21 participating licensed classroom teacher throughout the  
22 period of continuing education course enrollment; and

23 (3) evaluates participant work and provides  
24 individualized, written feedback aligned to continuing  
25 education course objectives.

26 "Licensed classroom teacher" means an individual holding a

1 valid and current Professional Educator License under Section  
2 21B-20. "Licensed classroom teacher" does not include any  
3 individual who is an administrator or is not covered by a  
4 collective bargaining agreement pertaining to teachers.

5 (b) This Section applies only to licensed classroom  
6 teachers who have the ability, under the terms of a collective  
7 bargaining agreement, employment contract, school board  
8 policy, or salary schedule, to achieve salary advancement  
9 through continuing education coursework.

10 (c) Beginning with continuing education coursework  
11 completed on or after July 1, 2026, a school district, special  
12 education cooperative, or other public educational employer  
13 may provide salary advancement to licensed classroom teachers  
14 for the completion of continuing education coursework. The  
15 school district, special education cooperative, or other  
16 public educational employer may recognize continuing education  
17 coursework for purposes of salary advancement only if the  
18 continuing education coursework:

19 (1) is graduate-level, degree-eligible credit offered  
20 through a regionally accredited institution of higher  
21 education and documented on an official academic  
22 transcript; and

23 (2) includes an instructor of record.

24 (d) Nothing in this Section requires a school district,  
25 special education cooperative, or other public educational  
26 employer to create a salary schedule or salary advancement

1 pathway if one does not otherwise exist.

2 (e) Nothing in this Section precludes the parties to a  
3 collectively bargained agreement from negotiating salary  
4 advancement or other compensation-related advancements under  
5 the collectively bargained agreement for other negotiated  
6 actions or activities by a licensed classroom teacher not set  
7 forth in this Section.

8 (f) Implementation of this Section, including standards  
9 for documentation, transcript verification, institutional  
10 accreditation, salary advancement, and compliance monitoring,  
11 shall be determined by each school district, special education  
12 cooperative, or other public educational employer.

13 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
14 becoming law.".