

S 766

Pay Teachers Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Mar 9, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Mar 9, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/766>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]

Party: Independent • **State:** VT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Mar 9, 2023
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Mar 9, 2023
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Mar 9, 2023
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Mar 9, 2023
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 9, 2023
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Mar 9, 2023
Sen. Welch, Peter [D-VT]	D · VT		Mar 9, 2023
Sen. Fetterman, John [D-PA]	D · PA		Jun 1, 2023
Sen. Butler, Laphonza R. [D-CA]	D · CA		Dec 14, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 9, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Pay Teachers Act

This bill provides funding to support education programs and addresses teacher shortages, including by establishing a minimum salary for public elementary and secondary school teachers.

Specifically, the bill requires states to establish a minimum annual salary of at least \$60,000 for full-time teachers that increases with experience. It establishes a pathway for eligible states to extend their time line to comply with these requirements.

The bill provides specified funds to the Department of Education (ED) for FY2024 and each succeeding year (indexed for inflation) for

- federal aid to local educational agencies for the education of disadvantaged children,
- programs to support rural education,
- the Impact Aid program,
- technical assistance to support the equitable distribution of teachers,
- the Teacher Quality Partnership grant program (and further directs ED to prioritize these grants for programs to address teacher shortages),
- the Augustus F. Hawkins Centers of Excellence program,
- personnel development to improve services and results for children with disabilities,
- the Supporting Effective Educator Development program, and
- the Teacher and School Leader Incentive program.

Additionally, the bill provides specified funds to the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) for FY2024 and each succeeding year (indexed for inflation) for programs and activities operated or funded by the BIE for BIE-funded schools. Entities receiving these funds must ensure that teachers are compensated with at least the minimum annual salary established by the BIE.

The bill provides specified funds to ED for FY2024 to contract with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to study resource equity requirements.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 9, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 9, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.