

CHAPTER 324**(SCR 88)**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION directing the Interim Joint Committee on Education to study teacher compensation and benefits.

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky has a commitment to improve the education of its citizens to allow each of them to be competitive in a global economy; and

WHEREAS, in spite of all of the intense effort to change and improve the public education system since 1990, Kentucky's teachers are paid approximately \$3,000 less than the average teacher earns in the seven surrounding states and approximately \$5,000 less than the national average; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force on Teacher Quality found that though significant progress has been made in raising Kentucky's teachers' salaries since 1990, continued efforts to improve base teachers' salaries are needed to be competitive with surrounding states and to move up in the national rankings; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force on Teacher Quality also found that compensation and benefits beyond the maintenance of a base salary are needed to recognize and reward teachers who stay in the classroom and perform at high levels, or those who assume additional duties or hard-to-fill assignments; and

WHEREAS, there is a problem with providing adequate, affordable health insurance for teachers and other public employees, there is a need to study methods of providing adequate and affordable health insurance for teachers, public employees, and retirees including self-insuring teachers, public employees, and retirees; and

WHEREAS, additional study and funding are needed to implement these and other recommendations that will ensure that Kentucky's teachers are rewarded adequately;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the House of Representatives concurring therein:

Section 1. The Interim Joint Committee on Education through one of its subcommittees is directed to study the issues related to teacher compensation and benefits and to develop recommendations so that by 2004 Kentucky's teachers' salaries and benefits shall mirror the national average.

Section 2. The Interim Joint Committee on Education shall be authorized to contract for consultant services. The Interim Joint Committee on Education and its subcommittee shall report the findings and recommendations, with enabling legislation, to the Legislative Research Commission no later than September 1, 2001.

Section 3. Provisions of this resolution to the contrary notwithstanding, the Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the identified issues to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof, and to designate a study completion date.

Approved April 6, 2000

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION PDF VERSION