
ENGROSSED SENATE BILL No. 184

DIGEST OF SB184 (Updated February 17, 1998 6:56 pm - DI 02)

Citations Affected: IC 20-6.1.

Synopsis: Ambassador for education. Establishes an ambassador for education program. Designates the teacher of the year selected by the superintendent of public instruction as the ambassador for education for one year. Requires the school corporation or accredited nonpublic school where the teacher is employed to grant the teacher a one year professional leave. Provides compensation and duties for the ambassador during the professional leave at either the Indiana department of education or at an institution of higher education in Indiana.

Effective: July 1, 1998.

**Weatherwax, Sipes, Breaux,
Bowser, Lubbers, K. Adams, Long,
Randolph**

(HOUSE SPONSORS — KLINKER, SCHOLER, BURKHARDT, CROSBY)

January 6, 1998, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.
January 15, 1998, reported favorably — Do Pass.
January 20, 1998, read second time, ordered engrossed. Engrossed.
January 27, 1998, read third time, passed. Yeas 49, nays 1.

HOUSE ACTION

January 29, 1998, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.
February 12, 1998, reported — Do Pass.

SEA 184+



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Second Regular Session 110th General Assembly (1998)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 1997 General Assembly.

SENATE ENROLLED ACT No. 184

AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. IC 20-6.1-11 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1998]:

Chapter 11. Ambassador for Education

Sec. 1. The following are the goals of the ambassador for education program:

- (1) Enhance the stature of teachers and the teaching profession.**
- (2) Inspire and attract talented young people to become teachers.**
- (3) Promote the teaching profession within community and business groups.**
- (4) Support the activities of the future teachers of America clubs.**
- (5) Represent Indiana teachers at business, education, and teacher leadership conferences and meetings.**
- (6) Reward the teacher of the year for the teacher's outstanding contributions to the teaching profession.**
- (7) Reward the teacher of the year for the teacher's contributions to the teacher's classroom and school.**

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Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "ambassador" refers to the ambassador for education established by section 4 of this chapter.

Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "school" means a school corporation or an accredited nonpublic school.

Sec. 4. The position of ambassador for education is established to act as an education liaison to Indiana schools.

Sec. 5. A teacher in a school who:

- (1) is selected by the superintendent of public instruction as teacher of the year; and
- (2) agrees to be ambassador;

is ambassador for a one (1) year term beginning July 1 after selection as teacher of the year and ending the following June 30.

Sec. 6. (a) The school where an ambassador is regularly employed shall do the following:

- (1) Grant the ambassador a one (1) year professional leave to serve as ambassador during the ambassador's term.
- (2) Allow the ambassador to return to the school from the professional leave:
 - (A) to the same or a comparable position as the ambassador held before the professional leave; and
 - (B) without loss of accrued benefits or seniority.
- (3) Continue to provide the ambassador all benefits of employment with the school other than salary.

(b) The department shall reimburse a school for the cost of benefits provided by the school to an ambassador under subsection (a)(3).

Sec. 7. An ambassador may elect to serve the one (1) year professional leave at:

- (1) an Indiana institution of higher education; or
- (2) the department.

Sec. 8. If an ambassador elects to serve a one (1) year professional leave with the department, the following apply:

- (1) The state coordinator of the ambassador for education program, as designated by the superintendent of public instruction, shall establish the ambassador's duties.
- (2) The ambassador is entitled to receive from the department the following:
 - (A) A salary in place of compensation from the school where the ambassador is regularly employed that equals the salary that the ambassador, if not serving as ambassador, would receive during the school year of the ambassador's term from the school where the

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ambassador is regularly employed.

(B) Actual expenses of the ambassador incurred as a result of the performance of duties under this chapter.

Sec. 9. If an ambassador elects to serve a one (1) year professional leave with an Indiana institution of higher education, the following apply:

(1) The dean of the institution's school of education or the equivalent officer shall establish the ambassador's duties.

(2) The ambassador is entitled to receive from the institution the amount of compensation that the institution offers the ambassador.

(3) The ambassador is entitled to receive from the department compensation in an amount that when added to the amount provided under subdivision (2) equals the salary that the ambassador, if not serving as ambassador, would receive during the school year of the ambassador's term from the school where the ambassador is regularly employed.

Sec. 10. The ambassador's duties must match the relative skills and education background of the ambassador and reflect the goals of the ambassador for education program. However, duties may include the following:

(1) Providing professional development seminars and workshops in the subject matter areas in which the ambassador has expertise.

(2) Accompanying the superintendent of public instruction in the exercise of the superintendent's duties throughout Indiana.

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