AN ACT TO EXPAND TEACHING EXCELLENCE BONUSES FOR CERTAIN TEACHERS WHO WOULD HAVE RECEIVED A BONUS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. It is the intent of the General Assembly to give a bonus substitute to certain teachers who remain teaching at the same school and would have received a bonus pursuant to one or more subdivisions of Section 9.7(a) of S.L. 2016-94 or pursuant to Section 8.8 of S.L. 2016-94 but for the restriction in subdivision (3) of either section ("the restriction").

SECTION 2.(a) If the teacher remains teaching at the same school and would have received a bonus under subdivision (1) of Section 9.7(a) of S.L. 2016-94 but for the restriction, the teacher shall receive a State bonus substitute equal to three thousand five hundred dollars ($3,500), unless the teacher refused to continue teaching third grade in the year the bonus was paid.

SECTION 2.(b) If the teacher remains teaching at the same school and would have received a bonus under subdivision (2) of Section 9.7(a) of S.L. 2016-94 but for the restriction, the teacher shall receive a local bonus substitute equal to three thousand five hundred dollars ($3,500), unless the teacher refused to continue teaching third grade in the year the bonus was paid.

SECTION 2.(c) If the teacher remains teaching at the same school and would have received a bonus under subsection (a) of Section 8.8 of S.L. 2016-94 but for the restriction, the teacher shall receive a bonus substitute equal to the amount the teacher would have received under subdivisions (1) and (2) of that subsection notwithstanding the restriction, unless the teacher refused to continue teaching the advanced course in the year the bonus was paid.

SECTION 3.(a) If a local school administrative unit paid a teacher an amount in lieu of a bonus the teacher would have received under subdivision (1) of Section 9.7(a) of S.L. 2016-94 but for the restriction, the Department of Public Instruction shall reimburse the local school administrative unit the amount paid up to three thousand five hundred dollars ($3,500).

SECTION 3.(b) If a local school administrative unit paid a teacher an amount in lieu of a bonus the teacher would have received under subdivision (2) of Section 9.7(a) of S.L. 2016-94 but for the restriction, the Department of Public Instruction shall reimburse the local school administrative unit the amount paid up to three thousand five hundred dollars ($3,500).

SECTION 3.(c) If a local school administrative unit paid a teacher an amount in lieu of a bonus the teacher would have received under subdivisions (1) and (2) of Section 8.8(a) of S.L. 2016-94 but for the restriction, the Department of Public Instruction shall reimburse the local school administrative unit the amount paid up to two thousand dollars ($2,000).

SECTION 4. Of the funds available to the Department of Public Instruction for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, the State Board of Education shall direct the Department to pay the bonus substitutes and reimbursements required by this act.
SECTION 5. This act is effective when it becomes law. In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 26th day of June, 2017.

s/ Daniel J. Forest
   President of the Senate

s/ Tim Moore
   Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ Roy Cooper
   Governor

Approved 3:18 p.m. this 30th day of June, 2017