**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 59‑20‑50, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO TEACHER SALARIES UNDER THE EDUCATION FINANCE ACT, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT BEGINNING IN SCHOOL YEAR 2019‑2020, A NEW TEACHER MUST RECEIVE A STARTING SALARY OF NO LESS THAN FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND A CURRENT TEACHER WHO EARNED LESS THAN SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS IN THE 2018‑2019 SCHOOL YEAR MUST RECEIVE A SALARY OF NO LESS THAN SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 59‑20‑50(4) of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an appropriately lettered item to read:

“( ) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, beginning in School Year 2019‑2020, a new certified teacher hired to teach in a public K‑12 school in this State must receive a starting salary of no less than fifty thousand dollars and a current certified public K‑12 teacher who earned less than sixty thousand dollars in the 2018‑2019 School Year must receive a salary of no less than sixty thousand dollars. A teacher employed in the same position, over the same time period, may not receive less total salary, including any normal incremental increase, than that teacher received in the 2019‑2020 School Year. The increased salary amounts must be paid from the school district’s administrative budget.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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