HOUSE BILL NO. 2098

Offered January 8, 2003 Prefiled January 7, 2003

A BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-289.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to teacher compensation.

Patrons—Plum, Alexander, Almand, Amundson, Barlow, Baskerville, Bland, Councill, Crittenden, Hall, Johnson, Keister, Melvin, Miles, Moran, Petersen, Pollard, Shuler, Spruill, Stump and Watts; Senators: Byrne, Deeds, Edwards, Howell, Miller, Y.B., Puckett and Puller

Referred to Committee on Appropriations

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 22.1-289.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 22.1-289.1. Teacher compensation; biennial review required.

It is a goal of the Commonwealth that its public school teachers be compensated at a rate that is competitive in order to attract and keep competent teachers. To meet this goal, it shall be the policy of the Commonwealth that the average salary for Virginia public school teachers shall equal or surpass the national average salary for public school teachers. The Board of Education and the General Assembly shall implement this policy in prescribing and revising the Standards of Quality required by Article VIII of the Constitution of Virginia and as set forth in Chapter 13.2 (§ 22.1-253.13:1 et seq.) of this title.

The Director of Human Resource Management shall conduct a biennial review of the compensation of teachers and other occupations requiring similar education and training. The results of these reviews shall be reported to the Governor, the General Assembly and the Board of Education by June 1 of each odd-numbered year beginning with 1989. However, a preliminary report shall be submitted by the Director of Human Resource Management by December 15, 1987. The Director shall include in each report the average salary for teachers in the Commonwealth, the national average salary for public school teachers, and the Commonwealth's national ranking for such salaries.

To compute such national average, the Director shall add the average salary for public school teachers in each of the 50 states, plus the District of Columbia, and divide by 51.