

CHAPTER 2014-31

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 337

An act relating to the Florida Teachers Classroom Supply Assistance Program; amending s. 1012.71, F.S.; revising procedures for distributing program funds to classroom teachers; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 1012.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.71 The Florida Teachers Classroom Supply Assistance Program.

(3) From the funds allocated to each school district and any funds received from local contributions for the Florida Teachers Classroom Supply Assistance Program, the district school board shall calculate an identical amount for each classroom teacher who is estimated to be employed by the school district or a charter school in the district on September 1 of each year, which is that teacher's proportionate share of the total amount allocated to the district from state funds and funds received from local contributions. A job-share classroom teacher may receive a prorated share of the amount provided to a full-time classroom teacher. For a classroom teacher determined eligible on July 1, the district school board and each charter school board may provide the teacher with his or her total proportionate share by August 1 based on the estimate of the number of teachers who will be employed on September 1. For a classroom teacher determined eligible after July 1, the district school board and each charter school board shall provide the each classroom teacher with his or her total proportionate share by September 30. The proportionate share may be provided of each year by any means determined appropriate by the district school board or charter school board, including, but not limited to, direct deposit, check, debit card, or purchasing card. If a debit card is used, an identifier must be placed on the front of the debit card which clearly indicates that the card has been issued for the Florida Teachers Classroom Supply Assistance Program. Expenditures under the program are not subject to state or local competitive bidding requirements. Funds received by a classroom teacher do not affect wages, hours, or terms and conditions of employment and, therefore, are not subject to collective bargaining. Any classroom teacher may decline receipt of or return the funds without explanation or cause.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.

Approved by the Governor May 12, 2014.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 12, 2014.