



## **Issue Brief** – Local Funds for Teacher Salaries

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### **Background**

Boards of education are charged with governing school systems so that all students receive the best educational opportunities to graduate prepared to enter a postsecondary institution or the workforce. The Board has all the responsibility and accountability for the school system but lacks fiscal independence and must rely on the local funding body. Over the last several years, the General Assembly has provided record increases in teacher salaries and additional compensation. In many instances, local funding bodies are not required to provide any additional funds for teacher salaries because of the local match and maintenance of effort provisions of the Basic Education Program (BEP). As a result of not receiving additional local funding, school boards must attempt to provide all teachers with a raise even though additional local monies are not provided.

School boards are not able to provide the raise percentage that was intended by the General Assembly when they appropriated additional monies for teacher compensation. Requiring local funding bodies to match, by a percentage, any increase in teachers' salaries provided by the General Assembly would help ensure all teachers receive the intended raise when additional money is appropriated.

### **TSBA Position - SUPPORT**

TSBA urges the General Assembly to require local funding bodies to match any percentage increase in the instructional component of the Basic Education Program (BEP) when additional funds are provided by the General Assembly.