

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 953

To amend chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, to provide special pay for board certified Federal employees who are employed in health science positions, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 30, 2003

Ms. LANDRIEU introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To amend chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, to provide special pay for board certified Federal employees who are employed in health science positions, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*

2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SPECIAL PAY FOR FEDERAL BOARD CERTIFIED**

4 **HEALTH SCIENTISTS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 53 of title 5, United

6 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 5377

7 the following:

1 **“§ 5377a. Special pay for board certified health sci-**2 **entists**

3 “(a) In this section—

4 “(1) the term ‘agency’—

5 “(A) has the meaning given under section
6 5102; and7 “(B) shall not include the government of
8 the District of Columbia;9 “(2) the term ‘board certified’ means certifi-
10 cation of a scientific specialty by a nationally recog-
11 nized professional body;12 “(3) the term ‘creditable service’ means cred-
13 itable service under chapter 83 or 84; and14 “(4) the term ‘health science position’ means a
15 position relating to—

16 “(A) dentistry;

17 “(B) human medicine;

18 “(C) nursing;

19 “(D) veterinary medicine;

20 “(E) pharmacy;

21 “(F) psychology; or

22 “(G) optometry.

23 “(b) Subject to subsection (d), an employee is entitled
24 to special pay as provided under subsection (c) if the em-
25 ployee is—

1 “(1) employed in a health science position in an
2 agency; and

3 “(2) board certified in a specialty directly re-
4 lated to that position.

5 “(c)(1) The rate of special pay to which an employee
6 is entitled under subsection (b) shall be—

7 “(A) \$2,500 per year, if the employee has less
8 than 10 years of creditable service;

9 “(B) \$3,500 per year, if the employee has at
10 least 10 but less than 12 years of creditable service;

11 “(C) \$4,000 per year, if the employee has at
12 least 12 but less than 14 years of creditable service;

13 “(D) \$5,000 per year, if the employee has at
14 least 14 but less than 18 years of creditable service;

15 or

16 “(E) \$6,000 per year, if the employee has 18
17 or more years of creditable service.

18 “(2)(A) With respect to employees of Executive agen-
19 cies, the President may provide for an inflation adjust-
20 ment in any calendar year of the amounts under para-
21 graph (1) by a percentage not to exceed the percentage
22 adjustment under section 5303 (including any locality-
23 based comparability payment under section 5304) for that
24 calendar year.

1 “(B) With respect to employees of any agency (other
2 than an Executive agency), the head of an agency may
3 provide for an inflation adjustment in any calendar year
4 of the amounts under paragraph (1) by a percentage not
5 to exceed the percentage adjustment made under subpara-
6 graph (A).

7 “(d) Pay under this section—

8 “(1) is not an equivalent increase in pay within
9 the meaning of section 5335;
10 “(2) is not part of basic pay; and
11 “(3) shall be subject to section 5307.

12 “(e)(1) With respect to employees of Executive agen-
13 cies, the Office of Personnel Management shall prescribe
14 regulations to carry out this section after consultation
15 with agencies, including regulations that designate—

16 “(A) scientific health positions;
17 “(B) scientific specialties; and
18 “(C) boards which provide certification.

19 “(2) With respect to employees of any agency (other
20 than an Executive agency), the head of that agency shall
21 prescribe regulations to carry out this section, including
22 regulations that designate—

23 “(A) scientific health positions;
24 “(B) scientific specialties; and
25 “(C) boards which provide certification.”.

1 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—

2 The table of sections for chapter 53 of title 5, United

3 States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relat-

4 ing to section 5377 the following:

“5377a. Special pay for board certified health scientists.”.

5 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act shall take effect on

6 the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning

7 on or after 180 days after the date of enactment of this

8 Act.

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