
HOUSE BILL 1374

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Representatives Smith, Johnson, Hickel, Talcott, B. Thomas and Thompson

Read first time 01/23/97. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to alternate teacher certification; amending RCW
2 28A.150.410; adding a new section to chapter 28A.410 RCW; and creating
3 a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature to
6 attract career professionals from diverse backgrounds into the teaching
7 profession and prevent teacher shortages by making alternate teacher
8 certification available to persons with baccalaureate degrees and
9 relevant work experience or sufficient knowledge of the subject area to
10 be taught. The alternate certificate established under section 2 of
11 this act allows eligible persons to enter the classroom under the
12 guidance and supervision of a school district and to qualify for
13 initial teacher certification upon satisfactory completion of two years
14 of full-time teaching.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.410
16 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) An individual may obtain an alternate teaching certificate that
2 allows the individual to teach in the state of Washington. Each
3 candidate for an alternate teacher's certificate shall:

4 (a) Possess a baccalaureate degree in the arts, sciences, or
5 humanities from a college or university accredited by the Northwest
6 association of schools and colleges or an equivalent accrediting
7 organization;

8 (b) Have at least five years' work experience relevant to the
9 subject area in which he or she is seeking an endorsement or
10 endorsements, or sufficient knowledge of the subject area to be taught.
11 The superintendent of the school district shall determine, on a case-
12 by-case basis, what constitutes sufficient knowledge. This work
13 experience or knowledge of the subject area shall meet the requirements
14 for an endorsement or endorsements in the relevant subject area or
15 areas;

16 (c) Meet the age and character requirements established by the
17 state board of education for all certificated school staff, including
18 compliance with the background check through the Washington state
19 patrol criminal investigation system and the federal bureau of
20 investigation as required under RCW 28A.410.010; and

21 (d) Possess a contract for employment in a school district of the
22 state.

23 (2) Before beginning teaching under the alternate teacher
24 certificate, the candidate shall develop with his or her employing
25 school district a written plan for training, supervision, guidance, and
26 support to be provided to the candidate by the district for the
27 duration of the alternate certificate.

28 (3) The alternate teacher certificate allows the holder full
29 authority to serve as a part-time or full-time teacher. The
30 certificate shall be valid for not more than two years of full-time
31 teaching or its equivalent. A person desiring to teach beyond the
32 expiration date of his or her alternate certificate shall apply for
33 initial certification, or its equivalent, with the state board of
34 education. Such certification shall be conditioned upon the
35 satisfaction of all requirements in this section, two years of
36 successful teaching as determined by the evaluation criteria used in
37 the school district for teachers, and a recommendation by the principal
38 supervising the candidate. State certification shall not require
39 additional course work or experience.

1 (4) Alternate certification developed under this section shall be
2 available beginning in the 1997-98 school year.

3 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.150.410 and 1990 c 33 s 118 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The legislature shall establish for each school year in the
6 appropriations act a state-wide salary allocation schedule, for
7 allocation purposes only, to be used to distribute funds for basic
8 education certificated instructional staff salaries under RCW
9 28A.150.260.

10 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall calculate salary
11 allocations for state funded basic education certificated instructional
12 staff by determining the district average salary for basic education
13 instructional staff using the salary allocation schedule established
14 pursuant to this section. However, no district shall receive an
15 allocation based upon an average basic education certificated
16 instructional staff salary which is less than the average of the
17 district's 1986-87 actual basic education certificated instructional
18 staff salaries, as reported to the superintendent of public instruction
19 prior to June 1, 1987, and the legislature may grant minimum salary
20 increases on that base: PROVIDED, That the superintendent of public
21 instruction may adjust this allocation based upon the education and
22 experience of the district's certificated instructional staff and in
23 accordance with subsection (4) of this section.

24 (3) Beginning January 1, 1992, no more than ninety college quarter-
25 hour credits received by any employee after the baccalaureate degree
26 may be used to determine compensation allocations under the state
27 salary allocation schedule and LEAP documents referenced in the
28 biennial appropriations act, or any replacement schedules and
29 documents, unless:

30 (a) The employee has a masters degree; or

31 (b) The credits were used in generating state salary allocations
32 before January 1, 1992.

33 (4) In determining state allocations and salaries for individuals
34 participating in the alternate certification program under section 2 of
35 this act, the school district shall consider the individual's education
36 and employment experience, including employment experience in

- 1 noneducation employment that is relevant to the individual's
- 2 performance as a teacher.

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