
ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 2760

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Quall, Carlson, Lovick, Constantine, Regala, Haigh, Tokuda, Linville, Keiser, Stensen, Conway, Wood, Morris, Kenney and Ogden; by request of Governor Locke

Read first time 01/19/2000. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to standards for educator quality; adding new
2 sections to chapter 28A.410 RCW; creating new sections; and repealing
3 RCW 28A.410.020.

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

5 PART 1

6 PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR STANDARDS BOARD

7 NEW SECTION. Sec. 101. INTENT. The legislature finds and
8 declares:

9 (1) Creation of a public body whose focus is educator quality would
10 be likely to bring greater focus and attention to the profession;

11 (2) Professional educator standards boards are consumer protection
12 boards, establishing assessment policies to ensure the public that its
13 new practitioners have the knowledge to be competent;

14 (3) The highest possible standards for all educators are essential
15 in ensuring attainment of high academic standards by all students;

16 (4) Teacher assessment for certification can guard against
17 admission to the teaching profession of persons who have not

1 demonstrated that they are knowledgeable in the subjects they will be
2 assigned to teach; and

3 (5) Teacher assessment for certification should be implemented as
4 an additional element to the system of teacher preparation and
5 certification.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 102.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.410
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 WASHINGTON PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR STANDARDS BOARD. (1) The
9 Washington professional educator standards board is created, consisting
10 of nineteen members to be appointed by the governor to four-year terms
11 and the superintendent of public instruction, who shall be an ex
12 officio, nonvoting member. No person may serve as a member of the
13 board for more than two consecutive full terms. The governor shall
14 annually appoint the chair of the board from among the teachers and
15 principals on the board. No board member may serve as chair for more
16 than two consecutive years.

17 (2) Seven of the members shall be public school teachers, one shall
18 be a private school teacher, three shall represent higher education
19 educator preparation programs, four shall be school administrators, two
20 shall be educational staff associates, one shall be a parent, and one
21 shall be a member of the public.

22 (3) Public school teachers appointed to the board must:

23 (a) Have at least three years of teaching experience in a
24 Washington public school;

25 (b) Be currently certificated and actively employed in a teaching
26 position; and

27 (c) Include one teacher currently teaching at the elementary school
28 level, one at the middle school level, one at the high school level,
29 and one vocationally certificated.

30 (4) Private school teachers appointed to the board must:

31 (a) Have at least three years of teaching experience in a
32 Washington approved private school; and

33 (b) Be currently certificated and actively employed in a teaching
34 position in an approved private school.

35 (5) Appointees from higher education educator preparation programs
36 must include two representatives from institutions of higher education
37 as defined in RCW 28B.10.016 and one representative from an institution
38 of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.07.020(4).

1 (6) School administrators appointed to the board must:
2 (a) Have at least three years of administrative experience in a
3 Washington public school district;
4 (b) Be currently certificated and actively employed in a school
5 administrator position; and
6 (c) Include two public school principals, one Washington approved
7 private school principal, and one superintendent.
8 (7) Educational staff associates appointed to the board must:
9 (a) Have at least three years of educational staff associate
10 experience in a Washington public school district; and
11 (b) Be currently certificated and actively employed in an
12 educational staff associate position.
13 (8) Each major caucus of the house of representatives and the
14 senate shall submit a list of at least one public school teacher. In
15 making the public school teacher appointments, the governor shall
16 select one nominee from each list provided by each caucus. The
17 governor shall appoint the remaining members of the board from a list
18 of qualified nominees submitted to the governor by organizations
19 representative of the constituencies of the board, from applications
20 from other qualified individuals, or from both nominees and applicants.
21 (9) All appointments to the board made by the governor shall be
22 subject to confirmation by the senate.
23 (10) The governor shall appoint the members of the initial board no
24 later than June 1, 2000.
25 (11) In appointing board members, the governor shall consider the
26 diversity of the population of the state.
27 (12) Each member of the board shall be compensated in accordance
28 with RCW 43.03.240 and shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred
29 in carrying out the duties of the board in accordance with RCW
30 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.
31 (13) The governor may remove a member of the board for neglect of
32 duty, misconduct, malfeasance or misfeasance in office, or for
33 incompetency or unprofessional conduct as defined in chapter 18.130
34 RCW. In such a case, the governor shall file with the secretary of
35 state a statement of the causes for and the order of removal from
36 office, and the secretary of state shall send a certified copy of the
37 statement of causes and order of removal to the last known post office
38 address of the member.

1 (14) If a vacancy occurs on the board, the governor shall appoint
2 a replacement member from the nominees as specified in subsection (8)
3 of this section to fill the remainder of the unexpired term. When
4 filling a vacancy of a member nominated by a major caucus of the
5 legislature, the governor shall select the new member from a list of at
6 least one name submitted by the same caucus that provided the list from
7 which the retiring member was appointed.

8 (15) Members of the board shall hire an executive director and an
9 administrative assistant to reside in the office of the superintendent
10 of public instruction for administrative purposes only.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 103.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.410
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD. The Washington professional
14 educator standards board shall:

15 (1) Serve as an advisory body to the superintendent of public
16 instruction and as the sole advisory body to the state board of
17 education on issues related to educator recruitment, hiring,
18 preparation, certification including high quality alternative routes to
19 certification, mentoring and support, professional growth, retention,
20 governance, prospective teacher pedagogy assessment, prospective
21 principal assessment, educator evaluation including but not limited to
22 peer evaluation, and revocation and suspension of licensure;

23 (2) Submit annual reports and recommendations, beginning December
24 1, 2000, to the governor, the education and fiscal committees of the
25 legislature, the state board of education, and the superintendent of
26 public instruction concerning duties and activities within the board's
27 advisory capacity. The Washington professional educator standards
28 board shall submit a separate report by December 1, 2000, to the
29 governor, the education and fiscal committees of the legislature, the
30 state board of education, and the superintendent of public instruction
31 providing recommendations for at least two high quality alternative
32 routes to teacher certification. In its deliberations, the board shall
33 consider at least one route that permits persons with substantial
34 subject matter expertise to achieve residency certification through an
35 on-the-job training program provided by a school district; and

36 (3) Establish the prospective teacher assessment system for basic
37 skills and subject knowledge that shall be required to obtain residency
38 certification pursuant to sections 201 through 203 of this act.

PART 2
TEACHER ASSESSMENT

1
2
3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 201.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.410
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1)(a) Beginning not later than September 1, 2001, the Washington
6 professional educator standards board shall make available and pilot a
7 means of assessing an applicant's knowledge in the basic skills. For
8 the purposes of this section, "basic skills" means the subjects of at
9 least reading, writing, and mathematics. Beginning September 1, 2002,
10 except as provided in (c) of this subsection and subsection (3) of this
11 section, passing this assessment shall be required for admission to
12 approved teacher preparation programs and for persons from out-of-state
13 applying for a Washington state residency teaching certificate.

14 (b) On an individual student basis, approved teacher preparation
15 programs may admit into their programs a candidate who has not achieved
16 the minimum basic skills assessment score established by the Washington
17 professional educator standards board. Individuals so admitted may not
18 receive residency certification without passing the basic skills
19 assessment under this section.

20 (c) The Washington professional educator standards board may
21 establish criteria to ensure that persons from out-of-state who are
22 applying for residency certification and persons applying to master's
23 degree level teacher preparation programs can demonstrate to the
24 board's satisfaction that they have the requisite basic skills based
25 upon having completed another basic skills assessment acceptable to the
26 Washington professional educator standards board or by some other
27 alternative approved by the Washington professional educator standards
28 board.

29 (2) Beginning not later than September 1, 2002, the Washington
30 professional educator standards board shall provide for the initial
31 piloting and implementation of a means of assessing an applicant's
32 knowledge in the subjects for which the applicant has applied for an
33 endorsement to his or her residency or professional teaching
34 certificate. The assessment of subject knowledge shall not include
35 instructional methodology. Beginning September 1, 2003, passing this
36 assessment shall be required to receive an endorsement for
37 certification purposes.

1 (3) The Washington professional educator standards board may permit
2 exceptions from the assessment requirements under subsections (1) and
3 (2) of this section on a case-by-case basis.

4 (4) The Washington professional educator standards board shall
5 provide for reasonable accommodations for individuals who are required
6 to take the assessments in subsection (1) or (2) of this section if the
7 individuals have learning or other disabilities.

8 (5) With the exception of applicants exempt from the requirements
9 of subsections (1) and (2) of this section, an applicant must achieve
10 a minimum assessment score or scores established by the Washington
11 professional educator standards board on each of the assessments under
12 subsections (1) and (2) of this section.

13 (6) The Washington professional educator standards board and
14 superintendent of public instruction, as determined by the Washington
15 professional educator standards board, may contract with one or more
16 third parties for:

17 (a) The development, purchase, administration, scoring, and
18 reporting of scores of the assessments established by the Washington
19 professional educator standards board under subsections (1) and (2) of
20 this section;

21 (b) Related clerical and administrative activities; or

22 (c) Any combination of the purposes in this subsection.

23 (7) Applicants for admission to a Washington teacher preparation
24 program and applicants for residency and professional certificates who
25 are required to successfully complete one or more of the assessments
26 under subsections (1) and (2) of this section, and who are charged a
27 fee for the assessment by a third party contracted with under
28 subsection (6) of this section, shall pay the fee charged by the
29 contractor directly to the contractor. Such fees shall be reasonably
30 related to the actual costs of the contractor in providing the
31 assessment.

32 (8) The superintendent of public instruction is responsible for
33 supervision and providing support services to administer this section.

34 (9) The Washington professional educator standards board shall
35 collaboratively select or develop and implement the assessments and
36 minimum assessment scores required under this section with the
37 superintendent of public instruction and shall provide opportunities
38 for representatives of other interested educational organizations to
39 participate in the selection or development and implementation of such

1 assessments in a manner deemed appropriate by the Washington
2 professional educator standards board.

3 (10) The Washington professional educator standards board shall
4 adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW that are reasonably necessary for
5 the effective and efficient implementation of this section.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 202.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.410
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 The Washington professional educator standards board shall report
9 the proposed assessments to the legislative education committees for
10 review and comment prior to implementing the assessments by contractual
11 agreement with the selected vendor or vendors.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 203.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.410
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 (1) By December 1, 2003, and annually thereafter, the Washington
15 professional educator standards board shall prepare a report that
16 includes the following information:

17 (a) The range of scores on the basic skills assessment under
18 section 201(1) of this act for persons who passed the assessment and
19 were admitted to a Washington preparation program; and

20 (b) The range of scores on the subject assessments under section
21 201(2) of this act for persons who passed the assessments and earned an
22 endorsement.

23 (2) The information under subsection (1) of this section shall be
24 reported for the individual public and private colleges and
25 universities in Washington, as well as reported on an aggregate basis.
26 The report shall also include results disaggregated demographically.
27 The report shall include information on the number and percentage of
28 candidates exempted from assessments, demographic information on
29 candidates exempted, institutions attended and endorsements sought by
30 exempted candidates, and reasons for exclusion from the required
31 assessments. The report shall be made available through the state
32 library, on the website of the office of superintendent of public
33 instruction, and placed on the legislative alert list.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 204.** By January 1, 2001, the Washington state
35 institute for public policy shall report to the governor, the education
36 and fiscal committees of the legislature, the state board of education,

1 and the superintendent of public instruction on its findings and
2 recommendations concerning the governance of educator certification,
3 licensure, and preparation issues and the scope of authority of the
4 Washington professional educator standards board for the issues listed
5 in section 103(1) of this act.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 205.** RCW 28A.410.020 (Requirements for
7 admission to teacher preparation programs--Rules) and 1996 c 309 s 1,
8 1991 c 116 s 20, 1988 c 251 s 4, & 1987 c 525 s 202, as now or
9 hereafter amended, are each repealed, effective September 1, 2002.

10 **PART 3**
11 **MISCELLANEOUS**

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 301.** PART HEADINGS AND SECTION CAPTIONS NOT
13 LAW. Part headings and section captions used in this act are not any
14 part of the law.

--- END ---