
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5413

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Senators McAuliffe, Rasmussen, Benton, Winsley, Bauer, Kohl-Welles and Haugen; by request of Board of Education, Superintendent of Public Instruction and Governor Locke)

Read first time 02/16/99.

1 AN ACT Relating to teacher assessment for certification; adding new
2 sections to chapter 28A.410 RCW; creating a new section; and repealing
3 RCW 28A.410.020.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds and declares:

6 (1) Washington has a strong and continually improving system of
7 teacher preparation and certification;

8 (2) Incorporating teacher assessment for certification into the
9 system will contribute both to public confidence and to maintaining an
10 already high quality system of teacher preparation and certification in
11 Washington;

12 (3) Teacher assessment for certification can guard against
13 admission to the teaching profession of persons who have not
14 demonstrated that they are competent in the basic skills of reading,
15 writing, communications, and math; knowledgeable about the skills
16 required to teach; and knowledgeable in the subjects they will be
17 assigned to teach;

18 (4) Teacher assessment for certification should be implemented as
19 a complementary element to the existing system of teacher preparation

1 and certification and add value to the candidate's professional growth
2 journey; and

3 (5) Incorporating teacher assessment for certification should be
4 done in a manner that is aligned with the direction of the improvement
5 of student achievement act of 1993, chapter 336, Laws of 1993.

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

8 (1)(a) By September 1, 2000, the state board of education shall
9 select an assessment developed by a national educational testing
10 company that assesses an applicant's knowledge in basic academic
11 skills. Beginning August 1, 2001, passing this assessment shall be
12 required for admission to state board of education-approved teacher
13 preparation programs and for out-of-state applicants for a Washington
14 residency teaching certificate.

15 (b) State board of education-approved teacher preparation programs
16 may, on an individual student basis, admit into their programs a
17 candidate who has not achieved the minimum assessment score established
18 by the state board. Individuals so admitted cannot receive residency
19 certification without passing the basic skills assessment under this
20 section.

21 (2) Beginning not later than September 1, 2001, the state board
22 shall make available one or more means of assessing an applicant's
23 knowledge of teaching as determined by the state board. For purposes
24 of this assessment, "knowledge of teaching" means the knowledge of
25 teaching skills and theory that is supported by research as necessary
26 to be an effective teacher, which is not subject specific, and which
27 includes skills in classroom management and discipline, organization
28 and delivery of lessons, assessment strategies, and working and
29 communicating with parents. Beginning May 1, 2002, passing this
30 assessment shall be required to receive a residency certificate.

31 (3) Beginning not later than September 1, 2001, the state board
32 shall provide for the initial implementation of one or more means of
33 assessing an applicant's knowledge in the subjects for which the
34 applicant has applied for an endorsement. The assessment of subject
35 knowledge shall not include instructional methodology. Beginning May
36 1, 2002, passing this assessment for the applicable endorsements shall
37 be required to receive a residency certificate.

1 (4) On each of the assessments under subsections (1), (2), and (3)
2 of this section, an applicant shall be required to achieve at least the
3 minimum assessment score or scores established by the state board as a
4 condition to being admitted into a Washington teacher preparation
5 program and being issued a residency teaching certificate.

6 (a) The state board of education shall establish the minimum
7 assessment score or scores required on the assessment in subsection (1)
8 of this section.

9 (b) The advisory committee, created in subsection (9) of this
10 section, shall recommend to the state board of education the minimum
11 assessment score or scores required on the assessment in subsections
12 (2) and (3) of this section. The state board of education shall accept
13 the recommendation or reject the recommendation and request the
14 advisory committee to develop new recommendations.

15 (5) The state board of education and superintendent of public
16 instruction, as determined by the state board, may contract with one or
17 more third parties for:

18 (a) The development, purchase, administration, scoring, and
19 reporting of scores of the assessments established by the state board
20 under this section;

21 (b) Related clerical and administrative activities; or

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

23 (6) Unless funds are appropriated for the costs associated with any
24 of the assessments under this section, applicants for admission to a
25 Washington teacher preparation program and applicants for residency
26 teaching certificates shall pay fees established by the state board of
27 education for initial assessments, reassessments, scoring of
28 assessments, reporting of assessment scores, and clerical and
29 administrative activities related thereto. Such fees shall be
30 reasonably related to the direct and indirect costs of the state board
31 and superintendent of public instruction in implementing this section,
32 including contractual costs.

33 (7) Fee revenues received by the state board and superintendent of
34 public instruction under this section shall be deposited in the teacher
35 assessment account hereby created in the custody of the state
36 treasurer. Moneys deposited in the account shall be expended
37 exclusively for the direct and indirect costs of implementing this
38 section. Only the superintendent of public instruction or the
39 superintendent's designee may authorize expenditures from the account.

1 The account is subject to the allotment procedures under chapter 43.88
2 RCW, but no appropriation is required for disbursement.

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

5 (9) The state board of education shall establish an advisory
6 committee, comprised mostly of certificated teachers, and including
7 elementary and secondary school administrators, and representatives of
8 institutions of higher education. By January 1, 2000, the advisory
9 committee shall make recommendations to the state board of education
10 regarding the development or selection of the assessments required in
11 subsections (2) and (3) of this section. The state board of education
12 shall accept the recommendations or reject the recommendations and
13 request the advisory committee to make new recommendations.

14 (10) The state board shall adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW that
15 the board determines are reasonably necessary for the effective and
16 efficient implementation of this section. The board may adopt rules
17 allowing exceptions from taking any of the assessments under this
18 section on a case-by-case basis.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.410
20 RCW to read as follows:

21 By December 1, 2001, and annually thereafter, the state board of
22 education shall prepare a report on the number and percentage of
23 candidates who are successful in passing the assessments required under
24 section 2 of this act. The information shall be reported for the
25 individual public and private colleges and universities in Washington
26 as well as reported on an aggregate basis. The report shall also
27 include results disaggregated demographically. The report shall be
28 made available through the state library and over the internet and
29 placed on the legislative alert list.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.410.020 (Requirements for admission
31 to teacher preparation programs--Rules) and 1996 c 309 s 1, 1991 c 116
32 s 20, 1988 c 251 s 4, & 1987 c 525 s 202, as now or hereafter amended,
33 are each repealed, effective September 1, 2001.

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