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SENATE BILL 6563

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State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Senators Finkbeiner, Hochstatter, Stevens, Oke, Johnson, Swecker, McDonald, Zarelli, Roach and Benton

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

1 AN ACT Relating to alternate teacher certification; amending RCW  
2 28A.410.025 and 28A.150.410; adding new sections to chapter 28A.410  
3 RCW; creating new sections; and declaring an emergency.

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 facilitate a conditional opportunity for community members, including  
7 business and retired persons, to bring their expertise and work  
8 experiences into the classrooms in Washington to enrich the learning  
9 experience of students.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) A school district on behalf of an  
11 individual candidate may apply to the superintendent of public  
12 instruction for the issuance of an alternate teacher certificate.

13 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall issue the  
14 alternate teacher certificate if the following requirements are met and  
15 documented:

16 (a) The individual holds a baccalaureate degree from a regionally  
17 accredited institution of higher education;

1 (b) The individual has at least five years' work experience  
2 relevant to the subject area or areas the school district desires the  
3 individual to teach;

4 (c) The school district superintendent has determined that the  
5 individual has sufficient knowledge or experience to teach a particular  
6 subject or subjects and has recommended the individual to the school  
7 board of directors for approval. The school district superintendent  
8 shall recommend to the school board of directors for approval  
9 individuals he or she determines has sufficient knowledge or experience  
10 to teach a particular subject or subjects;

11 (d) The individual meets the age and character requirements  
12 established by the state board of education for all certificated staff,  
13 including compliance with the background check through the Washington  
14 state patrol criminal investigation system and the federal bureau of  
15 investigation as required under RCW 28A.410.010;

16 (e) The individual passes the state certification assessment of  
17 basic skills in reading, writing, communications, and mathematics when  
18 it becomes available;

19 (f) The individual possesses a contract specifying the terms and  
20 conditions of employment in a school district of the state; and

21 (g) The individual takes the certification assessment of teaching  
22 knowledge when it becomes available, and the results are used in the  
23 development of the written plan of assistance required under subsection  
24 (4) of this section.

25 (3) Until the state certification assessment of basic skills under  
26 subsection (2)(e) of this section is available, the individual shall  
27 complete a test of basic skills recommended by the state board of  
28 education. The passing scores shall be determined by the local school  
29 board until such time as the state board of education has by rule  
30 adopted minimum passing scores.

31 (4)(a) Prior to beginning teaching under the alternate teacher  
32 certificate, the individual shall develop with the employing school  
33 district a written plan for training, supervision, guidance, and  
34 support which shall be provided by the district to the individual while  
35 he or she holds the alternate teacher certificate.

36 (b) During the first ten weeks of employment, the school district  
37 shall provide direct supervision or observation of the teacher with an  
38 alternate certificate to assure the teacher's instructional  
39 effectiveness and identify any professional development needs.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    (1) The alternate teacher certificate allows  
2 the holder full authority to serve as a part-time or full-time teacher.  
3 The certificate shall be valid for not more than two years of full-time  
4 or part-time teaching or its equivalent.

5        (2) The alternate teacher certificate shall allow the holder to  
6 provide instructional services to students in any of the grades in  
7 middle school, junior high, and high school and teach only the subject  
8 or subjects approved by the local school board of directors and  
9 designated on the alternate teacher certificate.

10       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    (1) An individual desiring to teach beyond  
11 the expiration date of the alternate teacher certificate may apply to  
12 the superintendent of public instruction for an initial or residency  
13 teaching certificate.    The state superintendent shall issue the  
14 individual an initial or residency certificate if the following  
15 requirements are met and documented:

16        (a) The individual has completed at least two school years of  
17 successful teaching experience based on the recommendations of the  
18 supervising principal and district superintendent and approved by the  
19 school board of directors;

20        (b) The individual has successfully passed the state certification  
21 assessments of subject knowledge when they become available; and

22        (c) The individual has successfully passed the state certification  
23 assessments of teaching knowledge when they become available.

24        (2) The state board of education may not require any other  
25 conditions than those specified under subsection (1) of this section to  
26 meet initial or residency certification requirements.

27        **Sec. 5.**    RCW 28A.410.025 and 1969 ex.s. c 223 s 28A.67.010 are each  
28 amended to read as follows:

29        No person shall be accounted as a qualified teacher within the  
30 meaning of the school law who is not the holder of a valid teacher's  
31 certificate, alternate certificate issued under section 2 of this act,  
32 or permit or other limited certificate issued by ((lawful authority of  
33 this state)) the superintendent of public instruction pursuant to state  
34 law or the state board of education rules.

35        Through its authority under RCW 28A.305.130 to approve professional  
36 preparation programs in institutions of higher education, the state  
37 board of education shall ensure that prospective candidates for the

1 alternative certification process under sections 1 through 4 of this  
2 act are permitted to challenge required college courses in the  
3 professional preparation program.

4 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28A.150.410 and 1997 c 141 s 1 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The legislature shall establish for each school year in the  
7 appropriations act a state-wide salary allocation schedule, for  
8 allocation purposes only, to be used to distribute funds for basic  
9 education certificated instructional staff salaries under RCW  
10 28A.150.260.

11 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall calculate salary  
12 allocations for state funded basic education certificated instructional  
13 staff by determining the district average salary for basic education  
14 and special education instructional staff using the salary allocation  
15 schedule established pursuant to this section.

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

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

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

25 (4) In determining state allocations and salaries for individuals  
26 participating in the alternate certification program under section 2 of  
27 this act, an individual's salary shall be based on the state-wide  
28 salary allocation schedule for individuals with zero years of service  
29 and the individual's degree. Calculation of certificated years of  
30 service shall start from the date the individual is issued an initial  
31 or residency certificate and begins accumulating full-time or part-time  
32 professional educational employment.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Sections 2 through 4 of this act are each  
34 added to chapter 28A.410 RCW.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** The alternative teacher certificate shall be  
36 available beginning the 2000-01 school year.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 9.**    This act is necessary for the immediate  
2 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
3 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
4 immediately.

5        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 10.**    If any provision of this act or its  
6 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
7 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
8 persons or circumstances is not affected.

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