
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6668

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Senators McAuliffe, Finkbeiner, Eide, Rasmussen, Goings, Kohl-Welles, B. Sheldon and Patterson; by request of Governor Locke)

Read first time 02/04/00.

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

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, rule-making body whose focus is educator
10 assessment would be likely to bring greater focus and attention to the
11 profession;

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

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

17 (4) Teacher assessment for certification can guard against
18 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 twenty members to be appointed by the governor to four-year terms.
11 No person may serve as a member of the board for more than two
12 consecutive full terms. The governor shall annually appoint the chair
13 of the board from among the teachers and administrators on the board.
14 No board member may serve as chair for more than two consecutive years.

15 (2) Seven of the members shall be public school teachers, one shall
16 be a private school teacher, three shall represent higher education
17 educator preparation programs, four shall be school administrators, two
18 shall be educational staff associates, one shall be a parent, and one
19 shall be a member of the public. The superintendent of public
20 instruction shall be an ex officio, nonvoting member.

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

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

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

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

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

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

32 (b) Be currently certificated and actively employed in a teaching
33 position.

34 (5) Appointees from higher education educator preparation programs
35 must include one representative from an institution of higher education
36 as defined in RCW 28B.10.016 and one representative from a Washington
37 private institution of higher education.

38 (6) School administrators appointed to the board must:

1 (a) Have at least three years of administrative experience in a
2 Washington public school district;

3 (b) Be currently certificated and actively employed in a school
4 administrator position; and

5 (c) Include two public school principals, one private school
6 principal, and one superintendent.

7 (7) Educational staff associates appointed to the board must:

8 (a) Have at least three years of educational staff associate
9 experience in a Washington public school district; and

10 (b) Be currently certificated and actively employed in an
11 educational staff associate position.

12 (8) The governor shall appoint the members of the board from a list
13 of qualified nominees submitted to the governor by organizations
14 representative of the constituencies of the board, from applications
15 from other qualified individuals, or from both nominees and applicants.

16 (9) All appointments to the board made by the governor shall be
17 subject to confirmation by the senate.

18 (10) The governor shall appoint the members of the initial board no
19 later than June 1, 2000.

20 (11) Board members shall represent the racial, geographic, and
21 gender diversity of the state.

22 (12) Each member of the board shall be compensated in accordance
23 with RCW 43.03.240 and shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred
24 in carrying out the duties of the board in accordance with RCW
25 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

26 (13) The governor may remove a member of the board for neglect of
27 duty, misconduct, malfeasance or misfeasance in office, or for
28 incompetency or unprofessional conduct as defined in chapter 18.130
29 RCW. In such a case, the governor shall file with the secretary of
30 state a statement of the causes for and the order of removal from
31 office, and the secretary of state shall send a certified copy of the
32 statement of causes and order of removal to the last known post office
33 address of the member.

34 (14) If a vacancy occurs on the board, the governor shall appoint
35 a replacement member from the nominees as specified in subsection (8)
36 of this section to fill the remainder of the unexpired term.

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

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

3 POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD. The Washington professional
4 educator standards board shall:

5 (1) Serve as the sole advisory body to the state board of education
6 on issues related to educator recruitment, hiring, preparation,
7 certification including high quality alternate routes to certification,
8 mentoring and support, professional growth, retention, and governance;
9 and

10 (2) Submit annual reports, beginning December 1, 2000, to the
11 governor and the legislature concerning duties and activities within
12 the board's advisory capacity. The Washington professional educator
13 standards board shall submit a separate report by December 1, 2000, to
14 the governor and the legislature, providing recommendations for at
15 least two high quality alternate routes to teacher certification.

16 **PART 2**
17 **TEACHER ASSESSMENT**

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 201.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.410
19 RCW to read as follows:

20 (1)(a) Beginning not later than September 1, 2001, the Washington
21 professional educator standards board shall make available a means of
22 assessing an applicant's knowledge in the basic skills. For the
23 purposes of this section, "basic skills" means the subjects of at least
24 reading, writing, and mathematics. Beginning August 1, 2002, passing
25 this assessment shall be required for admission to approved teacher
26 preparation programs and for persons from out-of-state applying for a
27 Washington state residency teaching certificate.

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

34 (c) The Washington professional educator standards board by rule
35 shall establish criteria to ensure that persons from out-of-state who
36 are applying for residency certification can demonstrate to the board's
37 satisfaction that they have the requisite basic skills based upon

1 having completed another basic skills assessment acceptable to the
2 Washington professional educator standards board or by some other
3 alternative approved by the Washington professional educator standards
4 board.

5 (2) Beginning not later than September 1, 2002, the Washington
6 professional educator standards board shall provide for the initial
7 implementation of a means of assessing an applicant's knowledge in the
8 subjects for which the applicant has applied for an endorsement to his
9 or her residency or professional certificate. The assessment of
10 subject knowledge shall not include instructional methodology.
11 Beginning May 1, 2003, passing this assessment for the applicable
12 endorsements shall be required to receive a residency certificate and
13 for candidates desiring to add an endorsement to their residency or
14 professional teaching certificate.

15 (3) On each of the assessments under subsections (1) and (2) of
16 this section, an applicant must achieve a minimum assessment score or
17 scores established by the Washington professional educator standards
18 board.

19 (4) The Washington professional educator standards board and
20 superintendent of public instruction, as determined by the Washington
21 professional educator standards board, may contract with one or more
22 third parties for:

23 (a) The development, purchase, administration, scoring, and
24 reporting of scores of the assessments established by the Washington
25 professional educator standards board under subsections (1) and (2) of
26 this section;

27 (b) Related clerical and administrative activities; or

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

29 (5) Unless funds are appropriated for the costs associated with any
30 of the assessments under this section, applicants for admission to a
31 Washington teacher preparation program and applicants for residency
32 teaching certificates shall pay fees established by the Washington
33 professional educator standards board for initial assessments,
34 reassessments, scoring of assessments, reporting of assessment scores,
35 and clerical and administrative activities related thereto. Such fees
36 shall be reasonably related to the direct and indirect costs of the
37 Washington professional educator standards board and superintendent of
38 public instruction in implementing subsections (1) and (2) of this
39 section, including contractual costs.

1 (6) Fee revenues received by the superintendent of public
2 instruction under this section shall be deposited in the teacher
3 assessment account hereby created in the custody of the state
4 treasurer. Moneys deposited in the account shall be expended
5 exclusively for the direct and indirect costs of implementing this
6 section. Only the superintendent of public instruction or the
7 superintendent's designee may authorize expenditures from the account.
8 The account is subject to the allotment procedures under chapter 43.88
9 RCW, but no appropriation is required for disbursement.

10 (7) The superintendent of public instruction is responsible for
11 supervision and providing support services to administer this section.

12 (8) The Washington professional educator standards board shall
13 collaboratively select or develop and implement the assessments and
14 minimum assessment scores required under this section with the
15 superintendent of public instruction and shall provide opportunities
16 for representatives of other interested educational organizations to
17 participate in the selection or development and implementation of such
18 assessments in a manner deemed appropriate by the Washington
19 professional educator standards board.

20 (9) The Washington professional educator standards board shall
21 adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW that it determines are reasonably
22 necessary for the effective and efficient implementation of this
23 section. The board may adopt rules allowing exceptions from taking any
24 of the assessments under this section on a case-by-case basis.
25 Appropriate accommodations shall be made for individuals who have
26 learning or other disabilities.

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

29 The Washington professional educator standards board shall report
30 the proposed assessments to the legislative education committees for
31 review and comment prior to implementing the assessments by contractual
32 agreement with the selected vendor or vendors.

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

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

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

4 (b) The range of scores on the subject assessments under section
5 201(2) of this act for persons who passed the assessments and earned an
6 endorsement.

7 (2) The information under subsection (1) of this section shall be
8 reported for the individual public and private colleges and
9 universities in Washington, as well as reported on an aggregate basis.
10 The report shall also include results disaggregated demographically.
11 The report shall include information on the number and percentage of
12 candidates exempted from assessments, demographic information on
13 candidates exempted, institutions attended and endorsements sought by
14 exempted candidates, and reasons for exclusion from the required
15 assessments. The report shall be made available through the state
16 library, on the website of the office of superintendent of public
17 instruction, and placed on the legislative alert list.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 204.** RCW 28A.410.020 (Requirements for
19 admission to teacher preparation programs--Rules) and 1996 c 309 s 1,
20 1991 c 116 s 20, 1988 c 251 s 4, & 1987 c 525 s 202, as now or
21 hereafter amended, are each repealed, effective September 1, 2002.

22 **PART 3**
23 **MISCELLANEOUS**

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

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 302.** This act is necessary for the immediate
28 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
29 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
30 immediately.

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