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SENATE BILL 6478

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State of Washington 57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Senators McAuliffe, Finkbeiner and Winsley; by request of Governor Locke, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Board of Education and Professional Educator Standards Board

Read first time 01/18/2002. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the professional educator standards board; and  
2 amending RCW 28A.410.200 and 28A.410.220.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.410.200 and 2000 c 39 s 102 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The Washington professional educator standards board is  
7 created, consisting of nineteen members to be appointed by the governor  
8 to four-year terms and the superintendent of public instruction, who  
9 shall be an ex officio, nonvoting member. Terms of the initial members  
10 must be staggered in such a way that, where possible, the terms of  
11 members representing a specific group do not expire simultaneously. No  
12 person may serve as a member of the board for more than two consecutive  
13 full terms. The governor shall annually appoint the chair of the board  
14 from among the teachers and principals on the board. No board member  
15 may serve as chair for more than two consecutive years.

16 (2) Seven of the members shall be public school teachers, one shall  
17 be a private school teacher, three shall represent higher education  
18 educator preparation programs, four shall be school administrators, two

1 shall be educational staff associates, one shall be a parent, and one  
2 shall be a member of the public.

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

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

6 (b) Be currently certificated and actively employed in a teaching  
7 position; and

8 (c) Include one teacher currently teaching at the elementary school  
9 level, one at the middle school level, one at the high school level,  
10 and one vocationally certificated.

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

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

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

16 (5) Appointees from higher education educator preparation programs  
17 must include two representatives from institutions of higher education  
18 as defined in RCW 28B.10.016 and one representative from an institution  
19 of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.07.020(4).

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

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

23 (b) Be currently certificated and actively employed in a school  
24 administrator position; and

25 (c) Include two public school principals, one Washington approved  
26 private school principal, and one superintendent.

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

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

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

32 (8) Each major caucus of the house of representatives and the  
33 senate shall submit a list of at least one public school teacher. In  
34 making the public school teacher appointments, the governor shall  
35 select one nominee from each list provided by each caucus. The  
36 governor shall appoint the remaining members of the board from a list  
37 of qualified nominees submitted to the governor by organizations  
38 representative of the constituencies of the board, from applications  
39 from other qualified individuals, or from both nominees and applicants.

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

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

5 (11) In appointing board members, the governor shall consider the  
6 diversity of the population of the state.

7 (12) Each member of the board shall be compensated in accordance  
8 with RCW 43.03.240 and shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred  
9 in carrying out the duties of the board in accordance with RCW  
10 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

11 (13) The governor may remove a member of the board for neglect of  
12 duty, misconduct, malfeasance or misfeasance in office, or for  
13 incompetency or unprofessional conduct as defined in chapter 18.130  
14 RCW. In such a case, the governor shall file with the secretary of  
15 state a statement of the causes for and the order of removal from  
16 office, and the secretary of state shall send a certified copy of the  
17 statement of causes and order of removal to the last known post office  
18 address of the member.

19 (14) If a vacancy occurs on the board, the governor shall appoint  
20 a replacement member from the nominees as specified in subsection (8)  
21 of this section to fill the remainder of the unexpired term. When  
22 filling a vacancy of a member nominated by a major caucus of the  
23 legislature, the governor shall select the new member from a list of at  
24 least one name submitted by the same caucus that provided the list from  
25 which the retiring member was appointed.

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

29 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.410.220 and 2000 c 39 s 201 are each amended to  
30 read as follows:

31 (1)(a) Beginning not later than September 1, 2001, the Washington  
32 professional educator standards board shall make available and pilot a  
33 means of assessing an applicant's knowledge in the basic skills. For  
34 the purposes of this section, "basic skills" means the subjects of at  
35 least reading, writing, and mathematics. Beginning September 1, 2002,  
36 except as provided in (c) of this subsection and subsection (3) of this  
37 section, passing this assessment shall be required for admission to

1 approved teacher preparation programs and for persons from out-of-state  
2 applying for a Washington state residency teaching certificate.

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

9 (c) The Washington professional educator standards board may  
10 establish criteria to ensure that persons from out-of-state who are  
11 applying for residency certification and persons applying to master's  
12 degree level teacher preparation programs can demonstrate to the  
13 board's satisfaction that they have the requisite basic skills based  
14 upon having completed another basic skills assessment acceptable to the  
15 Washington professional educator standards board or by some other  
16 alternative approved by the Washington professional educator standards  
17 board.

18 (2) Beginning not later than September 1, 2002, the Washington  
19 professional educator standards board shall provide for the initial  
20 piloting and implementation of a means of assessing an applicant's  
21 knowledge in the subjects for which the applicant has applied for an  
22 endorsement to his or her residency or professional teaching  
23 certificate. The assessment of subject knowledge shall not include  
24 instructional methodology. Beginning September 1, ((2003)) 2005,  
25 passing this assessment shall be required to receive an endorsement for  
26 certification purposes.

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

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

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

1 (6) The Washington professional educator standards board and  
2 superintendent of public instruction, as determined by the Washington  
3 professional educator standards board, may contract with one or more  
4 third parties for:

5 (a) The development, purchase, administration, scoring, and  
6 reporting of scores of the assessments established by the Washington  
7 professional educator standards board under subsections (1) and (2) of  
8 this section;

9 (b) Related clerical and administrative activities; or

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

11 (7) Applicants for admission to a Washington teacher preparation  
12 program and applicants for residency and professional certificates who  
13 are required to successfully complete one or more of the assessments  
14 under subsections (1) and (2) of this section, and who are charged a  
15 fee for the assessment by a third party contracted with under  
16 subsection (6) of this section, shall pay the fee charged by the  
17 contractor directly to the contractor. Such fees shall be reasonably  
18 related to the actual costs of the contractor in providing the  
19 assessment.

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

22 (9) The Washington professional educator standards board shall  
23 collaboratively select or develop and implement the assessments and  
24 minimum assessment scores required under this section with the  
25 superintendent of public instruction and shall provide opportunities  
26 for representatives of other interested educational organizations to  
27 participate in the selection or development and implementation of such  
28 assessments in a manner deemed appropriate by the Washington  
29 professional educator standards board.

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

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