

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6433

As of January 20, 2004

Title: An act relating to investigations by the superintendent of public instruction.

Brief Description: Regarding investigations by the superintendent of public instruction.

Sponsors: Senators Benton, Kohl-Welles and Oke.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Education: 1/20/04.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Staff: Heather Lewis-Lechner (786-7448)

Background: Under current law the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has the authority to initiate and conduct investigations of misconduct of certificated school employees. For the purposes of completing the investigation, OSPI is given the authority to subpoena witnesses, compel testimony, gather evidence and administer oaths and affirmations. If an individual fails to obey a subpoena or give evidence to OSPI, a court may issue an order requiring the individual to appear before the court and show cause why he or she has not complied.

Summary of Bill: Once OSPI has initiated an investigation under this chapter, the investigation must be completed regardless of whether the individual being investigated resigns or allows his or her teaching certificate to lapse.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.