

ESSB 5983 - H COMM AMD  
By Committee on Education

ADOPTED AS AMENDED 04/14/2005

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes the importance  
4 of ongoing professional development and growth for teachers with the  
5 goal of improving student achievement. It is the intent of the  
6 legislature to ensure that professional certification is administered  
7 in such a way as to ensure that the professional development and growth  
8 of individual teachers is directly aligned to their current and future  
9 teaching responsibilities as professional educators.

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

12 The agency responsible for educator certification shall adopt rules  
13 for professional certification that:

14 (1) Provide maximum program choice for applicants, promote  
15 portability among programs, and promote maximum efficiency for  
16 applicants in attaining professional certification;

17 (2) Require professional certification no earlier than the fifth  
18 year following the year that the teacher first completes provisional  
19 status, with an automatic two-year extension upon enrollment;

20 (3) Grant professional certification to any teacher who attains  
21 certification from the national board for professional teaching  
22 standards;

23 (4) Permit any teacher currently enrolled in or participating in a  
24 program leading to professional certification to continue the program  
25 under administrative rules in place when the teacher began the program;

26 (5) Provide criteria for the approval of educational service  
27 districts, beginning no later than August 31, 2007, to offer programs  
28 leading to professional certification. The rules shall be written to  
29 encourage institutions of higher education and educational service

1 districts to partner with local school districts or consortia of school  
2 districts, as appropriate, to provide instruction for teachers seeking  
3 professional certification;

4 (6) Encourage institutions of higher education to offer  
5 professional certificate coursework as continuing education credit  
6 hours. This shall not prevent an institution of higher education from  
7 providing the option of including the professional certification  
8 requirements as part of a master's degree program;

9 (7) Provide criteria for a liaison relationship between approved  
10 programs and school districts in which applicants are employed;

11 (8) Identify an expedited professional certification process for  
12 out-of-state teachers who have five years or more of successful  
13 teaching experience to demonstrate skills and impact on student  
14 learning commensurate with Washington requirements for professional  
15 certification. The rules may require these teachers, within one year  
16 of the time they begin to teach in the state's public schools, take a  
17 course in or show evidence that they can teach to the state's essential  
18 academic learning requirements; and

19 (9) Identify an evaluation process of approved programs that  
20 includes a review of the program coursework and applicant coursework  
21 load requirements, linkages of programs to individual teacher  
22 professional growth plans, linkages to school district and school  
23 improvement plans, and, to the extent possible, linkages to school  
24 district professional enrichment and growth programs for teachers,  
25 where such programs are in place in school districts. The agency shall  
26 provide a preliminary report on the evaluation process to the senate  
27 and house of representatives committees on education policy by November  
28 1, 2005. The board shall identify:

29 (a) A process for awarding conditional approval of a program that  
30 shall include annual evaluations of the program until the program is  
31 awarded full approval;

32 (b) A less intensive evaluation cycle every three years once a  
33 program receives full approval unless the responsible agency has reason  
34 to intensify the evaluation;

35 (c) A method for investigating programs that have received numerous  
36 complaints from students enrolled in the program and from those  
37 recently completing the program;

1 (d) A method for investigating programs at the reasonable  
2 discretion of the agency; and

3 (e) A method for using, in the evaluation, both program completer  
4 satisfaction responses and data on the impact of educators who have  
5 obtained professional certification on student work and achievement."

6 Correct the title.

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