

SHB 1893 - S AMD 654

By Senators McAuliffe, Schmidt

ADOPTED 04/22/2005

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the quality of
4 education for children who are deaf or hard of hearing and the
5 expectations for those children's achievement should be equivalent to
6 those for children throughout the state. The legislature also finds
7 that deaf and hard of hearing children can benefit greatly if they are
8 taught by an educator who is trained to understand the learning and
9 communication issues the children face. Educators who received teacher
10 training in a program for the deaf and hard of hearing are sensitive to
11 the needs of deaf and hard of hearing students and are able to provide
12 appropriate strategies to assist students in reacting to and
13 interacting with their environment. The legislature intends to assist
14 school districts in their efforts to attract teachers who are
15 especially trained to work with deaf and hard of hearing students by
16 directing the state board of education to establish a certification
17 endorsement for teachers of the deaf and hard of hearing.

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

20 The agency responsible for teacher certification shall develop
21 certification endorsement requirements for teachers of deaf and hard of
22 hearing students. The endorsement shall be focused on the specific
23 skills and knowledge necessary to serve the education and communication
24 needs of deaf and hard of hearing students. In establishing rules for
25 the endorsement of teachers who will be working almost exclusively with
26 students who are deaf or hard of hearing, the agency shall consider
27 applicants to have met state endorsement requirements if they possess
28 a baccalaureate or master's degree in deaf education from a teacher
29 training program approved by the council on education of the deaf."

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1 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "hearing;" strike the
2 remainder of the title and insert "adding a new section to chapter
3 28A.410 RCW; and creating a new section."

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