
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2212

State of Washington **59th Legislature** **2005 Regular Session**

By House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by
Representatives Hunter, Cox, Haigh, Talcott and Lantz)

READ FIRST TIME 03/04/05.

1 AN ACT Relating to educator certification; amending RCW 28A.410.210
2 and 28A.305.130; adding new sections to chapter 28A.410 RCW; and
3 creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the professional
6 certification process required of new teachers and experienced teachers
7 from out of state is intended to provide candidates with a method for
8 advancing their teaching skills and demonstrating their ability to
9 improve student achievement. The legislature also finds that the
10 implementation of the professional certification process has faced
11 unresolved challenges that include wide variations in the quality,
12 relevance, and cost of different certification programs. The
13 legislature intends to direct state agencies to address issues of
14 educator preparation.

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

17 (1) The professional educator standards board shall biennially

1 review preparation programs leading to professional certification. The
2 review shall include but need not be limited to:

3 (a) A review of program coursework requirements and their
4 relationships to student learning;

5 (b) Linkages of programs to individual teacher professional growth
6 plans;

7 (c) Linkages to school district and school improvement plans;

8 (d) An evaluation of program costs to participants;

9 (e) Surveys of current and past program participants and mentors;
10 and

11 (f) To the extent possible, linkages to school district
12 professional enrichment and growth programs for teachers, where such
13 programs are in place in school districts.

14 (2) Beginning in 2008, to the extent possible, the review shall
15 include the impact on student work and achievement of educators who
16 have obtained professional certification.

17 (3) The professional educator standards board shall report the
18 results of the review to the education and higher education committees
19 of the senate and house of representatives by December 1, 2005, and
20 December 1st of each odd-numbered year thereafter. The report shall
21 include: The board's findings by institution; a summary of each
22 institution's improvement plan; a description of exemplary practices;
23 and any specific plans for agency technical assistance and support to
24 the individual programs.

25 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.410.210 and 2000 c 39 s 103 are each amended to
26 read as follows:

27 The Washington professional educator standards board shall:

28 (1) Serve as an advisory body to the superintendent of public
29 instruction and as the sole advisory body to the state board of
30 education on issues related to educator recruitment, hiring,
31 preparation, certification including high quality alternative routes to
32 certification, mentoring and support, professional growth, retention,
33 governance, prospective teacher pedagogy assessment, prospective
34 principal assessment, educator evaluation including but not limited to
35 peer evaluation, and revocation and suspension of licensure;

36 (2) Adopt rules for the professional certification of educators who

1 have already obtained initial or residency certification and for the
2 approval of preparation programs leading to the professional
3 certificate;

4 (3) Submit annual reports and recommendations, beginning December
5 1, 2000, to the governor, the education and fiscal committees of the
6 legislature, the state board of education, and the superintendent of
7 public instruction concerning duties and activities within the board's
8 advisory capacity. The Washington professional educator standards
9 board shall submit a separate report by December 1, 2000, to the
10 governor, the education and fiscal committees of the legislature, the
11 state board of education, and the superintendent of public instruction
12 providing recommendations for at least two high quality alternative
13 routes to teacher certification. In its deliberations, the board shall
14 consider at least one route that permits persons with substantial
15 subject matter expertise to achieve residency certification through an
16 on-the-job training program provided by a school district; and

17 ~~((3))~~ (4) Establish the prospective teacher assessment system for
18 basic skills and subject knowledge that shall be required to obtain
19 residency certification pursuant to RCW 28A.410.220 through
20 28A.410.240.

21 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 28A.410
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 The professional educator standards board shall adopt rules for the
24 professional certification of educators and the programs that prepare
25 educators for that certification. The rules shall:

26 (1) Permit maximum program choice for applicants, promote
27 portability among programs, and require program designs that promote
28 the professional growth of candidates in ways that minimize paperwork
29 and link requirements directly to student learning and achievement;

30 (2) Require professional certification beginning no earlier than
31 the 2006-07 school year;

32 (3) Require professional certification no earlier than the fifth
33 year following the receipt of a continuing employment contract and
34 allow any teacher who began a professional certification program before
35 June 30, 2005, to continue the program under the administrative rules
36 in place when the teacher began the program;

1 (4) Provide criteria for the approval of professional certification
2 programs offered by accredited institutions of higher education;

3 (5) Provide criteria for a liaison relationship between approved
4 programs and school districts for teachers enrolled in the programs;

5 (6) Identify a process for out-of-state certificated teachers not
6 yet certificated in Washington who have graduated from regionally
7 accredited institutions of higher education and who hold valid out-of-
8 state certificates. The rules shall award professional certification
9 to out-of-state teachers who have five years or more of successful
10 teaching experience if the teachers have had that experience within the
11 preceding three years and can show evidence of professional development
12 during their teaching careers. The rules may require these teachers,
13 within one year of the time they begin to teach in the state's public
14 schools, to take a course in or show evidence that they can teach to
15 the state's essential academic learning requirements;

16 (7) Design and pilot a professional certification preparation
17 program in which one or more educational service districts are lead
18 partners in the program. In the program, educational service districts
19 shall control the professional growth process and no core of coursework
20 may be required. Institutions of higher education may be partners in
21 the process, offering expertise as necessary and providing some or all
22 of the coursework required by teachers' professional growth plans. By
23 September 1, 2006, the board shall report the design of the pilot
24 program to the legislative education committees. The board shall
25 report to the legislative committees on education on the results of the
26 pilot program no later than three years after the pilot program has
27 commenced;

28 (8) Explore ways to provide candidates with low or no-cost program
29 options;

30 (9) Require the board to notify school districts and teachers about
31 six months before a certificate is due to expire;

32 (10) Require the board to explore reasonable options to deal with
33 lapsed certificates. Any options should include a graduated series of
34 consequences that are lenient for teachers whose certificates have been
35 lapsed fewer than six months and consists of a small fine for teachers
36 whose certificates have been lapsed between six months and two years;
37 and

1 (11) Implement an annual evaluation process of approved programs
2 that includes a review of the program coursework requirements, linkages
3 of programs to individual teacher professional growth plans, linkages
4 to school district and school improvement plans, and, to the extent
5 possible, linkages to school district professional enrichment and
6 growth programs for teachers, where such programs are in place in
7 school districts.

8 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.305.130 and 2002 c 205 s 3 are each amended to
9 read as follows:

10 In addition to any other powers and duties as provided by law, the
11 state board of education shall:

12 (1) Approve or disapprove the program of courses leading to initial
13 teacher, school administrator, and school specialized personnel
14 certification offered by all institutions of higher education within
15 the state which may be accredited and whose graduates may become
16 entitled to receive such certification, except those programs leading
17 to professional certification.

18 (2) Conduct every five years a review of the program approval
19 standards, except those programs leading to professional certification,
20 including the minimum standards for teachers, administrators, and
21 educational staff associates, to reflect research findings and assure
22 continued improvement of preparation programs for teachers,
23 administrators, and educational staff associates.

24 (3) Investigate the character of the work required to be performed
25 as a condition of entrance to and graduation from any institution of
26 higher education in this state relative to such certification as
27 provided for in subsection (1) of this section, and prepare a list of
28 accredited institutions of higher education of this and other states
29 whose graduates may be awarded such certificates.

30 (4)(a) The state board of education shall adopt rules to allow a
31 teacher certification candidate to fulfill, in part, teacher
32 preparation program requirements through work experience as a
33 classified teacher's aide in a public school or private school meeting
34 the requirements of RCW 28A.195.010. The rules shall include, but are
35 not limited to, limitations based upon the recency of the teacher
36 preparation candidate's teacher aide work experience, and limitations

1 based on the amount of work experience that may apply toward teacher
2 preparation program requirements under this chapter.

3 (b) The state board of education shall require that at the time of
4 the individual's enrollment in a teacher preparation program, the
5 supervising teacher and the building principal shall jointly provide to
6 the teacher preparation program of the higher education institution at
7 which the teacher candidate is enrolled, a written assessment of the
8 performance of the teacher candidate. The assessment shall contain
9 such information as determined by the state board of education and
10 shall include: Evidence that at least fifty percent of the candidate's
11 work as a classified teacher's aide was involved in instructional
12 activities with children under the supervision of a certificated
13 teacher and that the candidate worked a minimum of six hundred thirty
14 hours for one school year; the type of work performed by the candidate;
15 and a recommendation of whether the candidate's work experience as a
16 classified teacher's aide should be substituted for teacher preparation
17 program requirements. In compliance with such rules as may be
18 established by the state board of education under this section, the
19 teacher preparation programs of the higher education institution where
20 the candidate is enrolled shall make the final determination as to what
21 teacher preparation program requirements may be fulfilled by teacher
22 aide work experience.

23 (5) Supervise the issuance of such certificates, except
24 professional certificates, as provided for in subsection (1) of this
25 section and specify the types and kinds of certificates necessary for
26 the several departments of the common schools by rule or regulation in
27 accordance with RCW 28A.410.010.

28 (6) Accredite, subject to such accreditation standards and
29 procedures as may be established by the state board of education, all
30 schools that apply for accreditation, and approve, subject to the
31 provisions of RCW 28A.195.010, private schools carrying out a program
32 for any or all of the grades kindergarten through twelve: PROVIDED,
33 That no private school may be approved that operates a kindergarten
34 program only: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no public or private schools
35 shall be placed upon the list of accredited schools so long as secret
36 societies are knowingly allowed to exist among its students by school
37 officials: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the state board may elect to require

1 all or certain classifications of the public schools to conduct and
2 participate in such preaccreditation examination and evaluation
3 processes as may now or hereafter be established by the board.

4 (7) Make rules (~~and regulations~~) governing the establishment in
5 any existing nonhigh school district of any secondary program or any
6 new grades in grades nine through twelve. Before any such program or
7 any new grades are established the district must obtain prior approval
8 of the state board.

9 (8) Prepare such outline of study for the common schools as the
10 board shall deem necessary, and prescribe such rules for the general
11 government of the common schools, as shall seek to secure regularity of
12 attendance, prevent truancy, secure efficiency, and promote the true
13 interest of the common schools.

14 (9) Continuously reevaluate courses and adopt and enforce
15 (~~regulations~~) rules within the common schools so as to meet the
16 educational needs of students and articulate with the institutions of
17 higher education and unify the work of the public school system.

18 (10) Carry out board powers and duties relating to the organization
19 and reorganization of school districts under chapter 28A.315 RCW
20 (~~(28A.315.010 through 28A.315.680 and 28A.315.900)~~).

21 (11) Hear and decide appeals as otherwise provided by law.

22 The state board of education is given the authority to promulgate
23 information and rules dealing with the prevention of child abuse for
24 purposes of curriculum use in the common schools.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.410
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 (1) All powers, duties, and functions of the office of the
28 superintendent of public instruction pertaining to professional
29 educator certification are transferred to the professional educator
30 standards board. All references to the superintendent of public
31 instruction or the office of the superintendent of public instruction
32 in the Revised Code of Washington shall be construed to mean the
33 executive director of the professional educator standards board or the
34 professional educator standards board when referring to the functions
35 transferred in this section.

36 (2)(a) All reports, documents, surveys, books, records, files,
37 papers, or written material in the possession of the office of the

1 superintendent of public instruction pertaining to the powers,
2 functions, and duties transferred shall be delivered to the custody of
3 the professional educator standards board. All cabinets, furniture,
4 office equipment, motor vehicles, and other tangible property employed
5 by the office of the superintendent of public instruction in carrying
6 out the powers, functions, and duties transferred shall be made
7 available to the professional educator standards board. All funds,
8 credits, or other assets held in connection with the powers, functions,
9 and duties transferred shall be assigned to the professional educator
10 standards board.

11 (b) Any appropriations made to the office of the superintendent of
12 public instruction for carrying out the powers, functions, and duties
13 transferred shall, on the effective date of this section, be
14 transferred and credited to the professional educator standards board.

15 (c) Whenever any question arises as to the transfer of any
16 personnel, funds, books, documents, records, papers, files, equipment,
17 or other tangible property used or held in the exercise of the powers
18 and the performance of the duties and functions transferred, the
19 director of financial management shall make a determination as to the
20 proper allocation and certify the same to the state agencies concerned.

21 (3) All employees of the office of the superintendent of public
22 instruction engaged in performing the powers, functions, and duties
23 transferred are transferred to the jurisdiction of the professional
24 educator standards board. All employees classified under chapter 41.06
25 RCW, the state civil service law, are assigned to the professional
26 educator standards board to perform their usual duties upon the same
27 terms as formerly, without any loss of rights, subject to any action
28 that may be appropriate thereafter in accordance with the laws and
29 rules governing state civil service.

30 (4) All rules and all pending business before the office of the
31 superintendent of public instruction pertaining to the powers,
32 functions, and duties transferred shall be continued and acted upon by
33 the professional educator standards board. All existing contracts and
34 obligations shall remain in full force and shall be performed by the
35 professional educator standards board.

36 (5) The transfer of the powers, duties, functions, and personnel of
37 the office of the superintendent of public instruction shall not affect

1 the validity of any act performed before the effective date of this
2 section.

3 (6) If apportionments of budgeted funds are required because of the
4 transfers directed by this section, the director of financial
5 management shall certify the apportionments to the agencies affected,
6 the state auditor, and the state treasurer. Each of these shall make
7 the appropriate transfer and adjustments in funds and appropriation
8 accounts and equipment records in accordance with the certification.

9 (7) Nothing contained in this section may be construed to alter any
10 existing collective bargaining unit or the provisions of any existing
11 collective bargaining agreement until the agreement has expired or
12 until the bargaining unit has been modified by action of the personnel
13 resources board as provided by law.

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