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HOUSE BILL 3363

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State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2008 Regular Session

By Representative Dunn

Read first time 02/11/08. Referred to Committee on Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to individuals certified as teachers in other  
2 states; and amending RCW 28A.410.210 and 28A.410.220.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.410.210 and 2005 c 497 s 201 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6            The purpose of the professional educator standards board is to  
7 establish policies and requirements for the preparation and  
8 certification of educators that provide standards for competency in  
9 professional knowledge and practice in the areas of certification; a  
10 foundation of skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to help  
11 students with diverse needs, abilities, cultural experiences, and  
12 learning styles meet or exceed the learning goals outlined in RCW  
13 28A.150.210; knowledge of research-based practice; and professional  
14 development throughout a career. The Washington professional educator  
15 standards board shall:

16            (1) Establish policies and practices for the approval of programs  
17 of courses, requirements, and other activities leading to educator  
18 certification including teacher, school administrator, and educational  
19 staff associate certification;

1 (2) Establish policies and practices for the approval of the  
2 character of work required to be performed as a condition of entrance  
3 to and graduation from any educator preparation program including  
4 teacher, school administrator, and educational staff associate  
5 preparation program as provided in subsection (1) of this section;

6 (3) Establish a list of accredited institutions of higher education  
7 of this and other states whose graduates may be awarded educator  
8 certificates as teacher, school administrator, and educational staff  
9 associate and establish criteria and enter into agreements with other  
10 states to acquire reciprocal approval of educator preparation programs  
11 and certification, including teacher certification from the national  
12 board for professional teaching standards;

13 (4) Establish policies for approval of nontraditional educator  
14 preparation programs;

15 (5) Conduct a review of educator program approval standards at  
16 least every five years, beginning in 2006, to reflect research findings  
17 and assure continued improvement of preparation programs for teachers,  
18 administrators, and school specialized personnel;

19 (6) Specify the types and kinds of educator certificates to be  
20 issued and conditions for certification in accordance with subsection  
21 (1) of this section and RCW 28A.410.010;

22 (7) Hear and determine educator certification appeals as provided  
23 by RCW 28A.410.100;

24 (8) Apply for and receive federal or other funds on behalf of the  
25 state for purposes related to the duties of the board;

26 (9) Adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW that are necessary for the  
27 effective and efficient implementation of this chapter;

28 (10) Maintain data concerning educator preparation programs and  
29 their quality, educator certification, educator employment trends and  
30 needs, and other data deemed relevant by the board;

31 (11) Serve as an advisory body to the superintendent of public  
32 instruction on issues related to educator recruitment, hiring,  
33 mentoring and support, professional growth, retention, educator  
34 evaluation including but not limited to peer evaluation, and revocation  
35 and suspension of licensure;

36 (12) Submit, by October 15th of each even-numbered year, a joint  
37 report with the state board of education to the legislative education  
38 committees, the governor, and the superintendent of public instruction.

1 The report shall address the progress the boards have made and the  
2 obstacles they have encountered, individually and collectively, in the  
3 work of achieving the goals set out in RCW 28A.150.210;

4 (13) Establish the prospective teacher assessment system for basic  
5 skills and subject knowledge that shall be required to obtain residency  
6 certification pursuant to RCW 28A.410.220 through 28A.410.240; (~~and~~)

7 (14) Conduct meetings under the provisions of chapter 42.30 RCW;  
8 and

9 (15) Establish policies for granting residency certification  
10 without additional requirements for testing under RCW 28A.410.220 or  
11 additional course completion, except for the course on issues of abuse  
12 required under RCW 28A.410.035, for any candidate who holds an active  
13 teaching certificate issued by another state and who documents at least  
14 ten years of teaching experience in public schools. The policies shall  
15 also permit such candidates who hold out-of-state endorsements in  
16 subject areas not offered for endorsement in Washington to teach the  
17 subjects of the out-of-state endorsement.

18 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.410.220 and 2002 c 92 s 2 are each amended to read  
19 as follows:

20 (1)(a) Beginning not later than September 1, 2001, the Washington  
21 professional educator standards board shall make available and pilot a  
22 means of assessing an applicant's knowledge in the basic skills. For  
23 the purposes of this section, "basic skills" means the subjects of at  
24 least reading, writing, and mathematics. Beginning September 1, 2002,  
25 except as provided in (c) of this subsection and subsection (3) of this  
26 section, passing this assessment shall be required for admission to  
27 approved teacher preparation programs and for persons from out-of-state  
28 applying for a Washington state residency teaching certificate.

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

35 (c) The Washington professional educator standards board may  
36 establish criteria to ensure that persons from out-of-state who are  
37 applying for residency certification and persons applying to master's

1 degree level teacher preparation programs can demonstrate to the  
2 board's satisfaction that they have the requisite basic skills based  
3 upon having completed another basic skills assessment acceptable to the  
4 Washington professional educator standards board or by some other  
5 alternative approved by the Washington professional educator standards  
6 board.

7 (2) Beginning not later than September 1, 2002, the Washington  
8 professional educator standards board shall provide for the initial  
9 piloting and implementation of a means of assessing an applicant's  
10 knowledge in the subjects for which the applicant has applied for an  
11 endorsement to his or her residency or professional teaching  
12 certificate. The assessment of subject knowledge shall not include  
13 instructional methodology. Beginning September 1, 2005, passing this  
14 assessment shall be required to receive an endorsement for  
15 certification purposes.

16 (3) The Washington professional educator standards board may permit  
17 exceptions from the assessment requirements under subsections (1) and  
18 (2) of this section on a case-by-case basis and shall exempt  
19 individuals who meet the criteria specified under RCW 28A.410.210(15)  
20 from the assessment requirements under subsections (1) and (2) of this  
21 section.

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

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

31 (6) The Washington professional educator standards board and  
32 superintendent of public instruction, as determined by the Washington  
33 professional educator standards board, may contract with one or more  
34 third parties for:

35 (a) The development, purchase, administration, scoring, and  
36 reporting of scores of the assessments established by the Washington  
37 professional educator standards board under subsections (1) and (2) of  
38 this section;

1 (b) Related clerical and administrative activities; or

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

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

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

14 (9) The Washington professional educator standards board shall  
15 collaboratively select or develop and implement the assessments and  
16 minimum assessment scores required under this section with the  
17 superintendent of public instruction and shall provide opportunities  
18 for representatives of other interested educational organizations to  
19 participate in the selection or development and implementation of such  
20 assessments in a manner deemed appropriate by the Washington  
21 professional educator standards board.

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

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