(AS OF HOUSE 2ND READING 2/17/16)

Requires the superintendent of public instruction to: (1) Develop and implement a comprehensive, statewide initiative to increase the number of qualified individuals who apply for teaching positions in the state; and

(2) Develop mentor training program goals for the institutions to use in their teacher preparation program curricula.

Requires the workforce training and education coordinating board to develop and disseminate information designed to increase recruitment into professional educator standards board-approved teacher preparation programs.

Requires the professional educator standards board to create and administer the recruitment specialists grant program to provide funds to professional educator standards board-approved teacher preparation programs.

Requires each institution of higher education with a professional educator standards board-approved alternate route teacher certification program to develop a plan describing how the institution will partner with school districts regarding placement of resident teachers.

Requires the office of student financial assistance to: (1) Develop and administer the teacher shortage conditional grant program as a subprogram within the future teachers conditional scholarship and loan repayment program; and

(2) Administer a student teaching residency grant program to provide additional funds to individuals completing student teaching residencies at public schools in this state.

Establishes the teacher shortage conditional grant program, within the future teachers conditional scholarship and loan repayment program, to be administered by the office of student financial assistance.

Authorizes, under certain circumstances and in addition to postretirement employment options, a teacher in plan 2 or plan 3 who has retired under alternate early retirement provisions to be employed with an employer that has documented a shortage of certificated substitute teachers.