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HOUSE BILL 2333

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State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session

By Representative Hunter

Read first time 02/21/2007. Referred to Committee on Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to professional certification of teachers; adding  
2 a new section to chapter 28A.410 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature supports the intent of  
5 professional certification of teachers, which is to award a second-  
6 level state certificate based on competencies and a demonstration of a  
7 positive impact on student learning. However, the legislature finds  
8 that a uniform, objective, and rigorous performance assessment would be  
9 a more credible measure of competency in the classroom than completion  
10 of an additional professional development program. The legislature  
11 recognizes that some teachers will want and seek additional  
12 professional development through a professional certificate program and  
13 intends to continue to offer this as an option, as long as candidates  
14 for professional certification also complete the performance  
15 assessment. Once the competencies and performance expected from  
16 professional certificate holders are proven to have a positive impact  
17 on student learning, the legislature intends to reward this level of  
18 performance through the compensation system.

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

3        (1) The professional educator standards board shall adopt standards  
4    for and develop, field test, and implement a uniform and externally  
5    administered performance assessment for the professional certification  
6    of teachers. The assessment shall measure demonstrated teaching skill  
7    and shall include objective data and evidence that the teacher has a  
8    positive impact on student learning.

9        (2) The professional educator standards board shall adopt rules for  
10   professional certification of teachers that allow candidates to  
11   complete an approved professional certificate program and successfully  
12   complete the performance assessment or to successfully complete the  
13   performance assessment without completing an approved program.

14       (3) The professional educator standards board shall conduct a  
15   rigorous evaluation of the outcomes of the professional certificate  
16   performance assessment in this section, using a methodology that  
17   includes comparison groups and objective, data-driven measures of  
18   student learning. The purpose of the evaluation is to determine the  
19   impact of a professionally certified teacher on student learning, based  
20   on the demonstrated knowledge and skills measured by the performance  
21   assessment.

22       (4) After the professional educator standards board determines,  
23   based on the evidence, that professionally certified teachers have a  
24   positive impact on student learning, the legislature intends to provide  
25   professionally certified teachers with a compensation bonus.

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