(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 2ND SUBSTITUTE)

Establishes a public-private partnership to develop, pilot, and implement the Washington state leadership academy to focus on the development and enhancement of personal leadership characteristics and the teaching of effective practices and skills demonstrated by school and district administrators who are successful managers and instructional leaders. It is the goal of the academy to provide state-of-the-art programs and services across the state.

Declares that the purpose of the duties in this act for the professional educator standards board is to take the next steps in developing quality teaching knowledge and skill in the state's teaching ranks.

Requires the professional educator standards board to: (1) By December 2007: (a) adopt new knowledge and skill standards that prepare all individuals seeking residency teacher certification to integrate mathematics across all content areas; and (b) adopt new certification requirements for individuals seeking residency teacher certification as elementary education or middle level and secondary mathematics teachers to assure adequate content and instructional strategy preparation to teach to the kindergarten through twelfth grades state mathematics and science standards;

- (2) By June 2009: (a) set performance standards and develop, pilot, and implement a uniform and externally administered professional-level certification assessment based on demonstrated teaching skill. In the development of this assessment, consideration shall be given to changes professional certification program components such as the culminating seminar; (b) summarize its work in the development of the assessment in this act in the annual reports required by RCW 28A.410.240; and (c) review and revise the standards higher education teacher preparation programs incorporate updated practices to enhance teacher success in a knowledge and skill-based performance system that emphasizes strong content, applied learning, and personal, meaningful connections with students; and
- (3) By December 2009, review and revise as needed teacher preparation standards and requirements to focus on diversity in cultural knowledge and respect.

Requires that, in support of the mathematics, science, and targeted secondary reading improvement initiative, the office of the superintendent of public instruction shall create a partnership with the educational service districts to develop and deliver professional development learning opportunities for educators that fulfill the goals and address the specific targeted activities described in this act.

Establishes the recruiting diverse Washington teachers program to recruit and provide training and support for diverse high school students to enter the teaching profession, especially in teacher shortage areas and among multilingual, multicultural students. The program shall be administered by the professional educator standards board.

Repeals RCW 28A.300.350 and 28A.415.205.