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SENATE BILL 5906

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State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Senators Baxter, Roach, and Benton

Read first time 03/24/11. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to certificated classroom teachers, including  
2 career and technical education teachers; and amending RCW 28A.410.050,  
3 28A.410.080, and 28A.410.210.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.410.050 and 2005 c 497 s 205 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The Washington professional educator standards board shall  
8 develop and adopt rules establishing baccalaureate and master's degree  
9 equivalency standards for vocational instructors performing  
10 instructional duties and acquiring certification after August 31, 1992.

11 (2) If the number of contract days drops below one hundred eighty  
12 days for any full-time equivalent career and technical education  
13 certificated teachers with a valid teaching certificate, then all  
14 continuing education requirements are waived to maintain certification.

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.410.080 and 1969 ex.s. c 223 s 28A.01.025 are each  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Except as provided in RCW 28A.410.050, the school year for all

1 matters pertaining to teacher certification or for computing experience  
2 in teaching shall consist of not fewer than one hundred eighty school  
3 days.

4 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.410.210 and 2009 c 531 s 4 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;

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

25 (3) Establish a list of accredited institutions of higher education  
26 of this and other states whose graduates may be awarded educator  
27 certificates as teacher, school administrator, and educational staff  
28 associate and establish criteria and enter into agreements with other  
29 states to acquire reciprocal approval of educator preparation programs  
30 and certification, including teacher certification from the national  
31 board for professional teaching standards;

32 (4) Establish policies for approval of nontraditional educator  
33 preparation programs;

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

1 (6) Specify the types and kinds of educator certificates to be  
2 issued and conditions for certification in accordance with subsection  
3 (1) of this section and RCW 28A.410.010 and 28A.410.050;

4 (7) Apply for and receive federal or other funds on behalf of the  
5 state for purposes related to the duties of the board;

6 (8) Adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW that are necessary for the  
7 effective and efficient implementation of this chapter;

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

11 (10) Serve as an advisory body to the superintendent of public  
12 instruction on issues related to educator recruitment, hiring,  
13 mentoring and support, professional growth, retention, educator  
14 evaluation including but not limited to peer evaluation, and revocation  
15 and suspension of licensure;

16 (11) Submit, by October 15th of each even-numbered year, a joint  
17 report with the state board of education to the legislative education  
18 committees, the governor, and the superintendent of public instruction.  
19 The report shall address the progress the boards have made and the  
20 obstacles they have encountered, individually and collectively, in the  
21 work of achieving the goals set out in RCW 28A.150.210;

22 (12) Establish the prospective teacher assessment system for basic  
23 skills and subject knowledge that shall be required to obtain residency  
24 certification pursuant to RCW 28A.410.220 through 28A.410.240;

25 (13) By January 2010, set performance standards and develop, pilot,  
26 and implement a uniform and externally administered professional-level  
27 certification assessment based on demonstrated teaching skill. In the  
28 development of this assessment, consideration shall be given to changes  
29 in professional certification program components such as the  
30 culminating seminar; and

31 (14) Conduct meetings under the provisions of chapter 42.30 RCW.

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