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## Appropriations Committee

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### HB 2043

**Brief Description:** Temporarily suspending inflationary increases in educational employee compensation.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Hunter and Sullivan.

#### Brief Summary of Bill

- Suspends Initiative 732 Cost-of-Living Adjustments for K-12 and applicable higher education system staff for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 school years.
- Suspends adjustments to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification bonus for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 school years.

**Hearing Date:** 4/22/13

**Staff:** Jessica Harrell (786-7349).

#### **Background:**

##### Initiative 732 Cost-of-Living Adjustments.

Initiative 732 (I-732) was approved by voters in the November 2000 general election. It required the state to provide an annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for K-12 teachers and other public school employees, as well as community and technical college academic employees and classified employees at technical colleges. The COLA is based on the Seattle-area Consumer Price Index (CPI) from the most recently completed calendar year.

The I-732 COLA has been suspended during three biennia since being approved by voters. The suspensions occurred during the 2003-05, 2009-11 and 2011-13 biennia. Initiative 732 COLA adjustments assumed in the 2013-15 maintenance level budget are 2.5 percent for the 2013-14 school year, and 1.8 percent for the 2014-15 school year.

##### National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Program.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) program provides an opportunity for teachers to seek an advanced teaching credential by undertaking a rigorous application process. Once earned, the certification is valid for 10 years.

Washington is in its thirteenth year of participation in the NBPTS program. In 2000, Washington had 71 NBPTS-certified teachers. The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction projects 5,501 teachers will be certified in the 2013-14 school year, and approximately 575 teachers will become newly certified in the 2013-14 school year. Adjusting for inflation, the bonus for the 2013-14 school year is \$5,510, up from \$5,090.

**Summary of Bill:**

Initiative 732 COLAs are suspended for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 school years for both K-12 and applicable higher education employees. Inflation adjustments to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification bonus are also suspended for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 school years.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on April 18, 2013.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.