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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1669**

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**State of Washington**

**55th Legislature**

**1997 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Johnson, Talcott, Mulliken, Sterk, Carlson, Hickel, Smith, Sump, D. Schmidt, Wensman, Sheahan, Clements, Boldt, Schoesler and Sullivan)

Read first time 02/26/97.

1 AN ACT Relating to alternative teacher certification; amending RCW  
2 28A.410.025, 28A.410.040, 28A.150.410, and 41.59.935; adding new  
3 sections to chapter 28A.410 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The board of directors in each school  
6 district may issue alternative teaching certificates to individuals  
7 interested in teaching within the district who do not otherwise possess  
8 a teaching certificate issued by the state. Each candidate for an  
9 alternative certificate shall:

10 (1) Possess a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited  
11 institution of higher education or an equivalent accrediting  
12 organization;

13 (2) Have at least five years' work experience relevant to a primary  
14 subject area to be taught or sufficient knowledge of the primary  
15 subject area to be taught. Sufficient knowledge requirements shall be  
16 determined on a case-by-case basis by the superintendent of the  
17 district and approved by the local school board. This work experience  
18 or knowledge of the subject area shall meet the requirements for an  
19 endorsement or endorsements in the relevant subject area or areas;

1 (3) Complete the national teachers' examination (NTE) general  
2 knowledge test, or once available, the state certification assessment  
3 of basic skills in reading, writing, communications, and mathematics.  
4 The district shall determine the test to be taken and the level of  
5 performance necessary on the NTE to fulfill this requirement;

6 (4) Demonstrate to the superintendent and the local school board an  
7 ability to communicate information effectively to students, as  
8 determined by standards developed by the local school board;

9 (5) Meet the age and character requirements established by the  
10 state board of education for all certificated school staff, including  
11 compliance with the background check through the Washington state  
12 patrol criminal investigation system and the federal bureau of  
13 investigation as required under RCW 28A.400.303; and

14 (6) Possess a written agreement with the school district to  
15 complete a two-year residency to provide instructional services in the  
16 district.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The alternative teacher certificate allows  
18 the holder full authority to serve as a part-time or full-time teacher.  
19 The district shall report the issuance of all alternative teaching  
20 certificates to the state board of education. Alternative certificates  
21 issued under section 1 of this act are valid for not more than two  
22 years of full-time or part-time teaching or its equivalent.

23 The alternative teacher certificate shall allow the holder to  
24 provide instructional services to students in any of the grades in  
25 middle school, junior high, and high school. Instructional services  
26 shall be limited to the subject or subjects approved by the local  
27 school board of directors and designated on the alternative teacher  
28 certificate.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The school district board of directors shall  
30 by written policy, develop the criteria for successful completion of  
31 the two-year residency requirement in section 1(6) of this act. A  
32 written agreement between the individual and district shall specify the  
33 terms and conditions of employment and the terms for completion of the  
34 residency. All such agreements are exempt from chapter 41.59 RCW.

35 After successful completion of the two-year residency, the district  
36 shall present the individual to the superintendent of public  
37 instruction for initial certification by the state. The superintendent

1 shall grant initial certification in accordance with RCW 28A.410.040 to  
2 those individuals presented by the local board without requiring  
3 additional coursework or experience to meet initial certification  
4 requirements.

5 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.410.025 and 1969 ex.s. c 223 s 28A.67.010 are each  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 No person shall be accounted as a qualified teacher within the  
8 meaning of the school law who is not the holder of a valid teacher's  
9 certificate, alternative certificate issued under section 1 of this  
10 act, or permit issued by lawful authority of this state.

11 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.410.040 and 1992 c 141 s 101 are each amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 The state board of education shall adopt rules providing that,  
14 except as provided in this section, all individuals qualifying for an  
15 initial-level teaching certificate after August 31, 1992, shall possess  
16 a baccalaureate degree in the arts, sciences, and/or humanities and  
17 have fulfilled the requirements for teacher certification pursuant to  
18 RCW 28A.305.130 (1) and (2) or the requirements for alternative  
19 certification under sections 1 and 3 of this act. However, candidates  
20 for grades preschool through eight certificates shall have fulfilled  
21 the requirements for a major as part of their baccalaureate degree. If  
22 the major is in early childhood education, elementary education, or  
23 special education, the candidate must have at least thirty quarter  
24 hours or twenty semester hours in one academic field. The state board  
25 shall grant initial-level certificates to candidates presented by local  
26 school boards who have obtained alternative teaching certificates and  
27 successfully completed a two-year teaching residency within the  
28 district, without requiring additional coursework or experience to meet  
29 initial-level certification requirements.

30 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28A.150.410 and 1990 c 33 s 118 are each amended to  
31 read as follows:

32 (1) The legislature shall establish for each school year in the  
33 appropriations act a state-wide salary allocation schedule, for  
34 allocation purposes only, to be used to distribute funds for basic  
35 education certificated instructional staff salaries under RCW  
36 28A.150.260.

1 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall calculate salary  
2 allocations for state funded basic education certificated instructional  
3 staff by determining the district average salary for basic education  
4 instructional staff using the salary allocation schedule established  
5 pursuant to this section. However, no district shall receive an  
6 allocation based upon an average basic education certificated  
7 instructional staff salary which is less than the average of the  
8 district's 1986-87 actual basic education certificated instructional  
9 staff salaries, as reported to the superintendent of public instruction  
10 prior to June 1, 1987, and the legislature may grant minimum salary  
11 increases on that base: PROVIDED, That the superintendent of public  
12 instruction may adjust this allocation based upon the education and  
13 experience of the district's certificated instructional staff and in  
14 accordance with subsection (4) of this section.

15 (3) Beginning January 1, 1992, no more than ninety college quarter-  
16 hour credits received by any employee after the baccalaureate degree  
17 may be used to determine compensation allocations under the state  
18 salary allocation schedule and LEAP documents referenced in the  
19 biennial appropriations act, or any replacement schedules and  
20 documents, unless:

21 (a) The employee has a masters degree; or

22 (b) The credits were used in generating state salary allocations  
23 before January 1, 1992.

24 (4) In determining state allocations and salaries for individuals  
25 participating in the alternative certification program under section 2  
26 of this act, an individual's salary shall be based on the state-wide  
27 salary allocation schedule for individuals with zero years of service  
28 and the individual's degree. The two years of teaching under an  
29 alternate teaching certificate shall be included in the calculation of  
30 the individual's years of service when the individual is issued an  
31 initial certificate as provided in section 3 of this act and RCW  
32 28A.410.040.

33 **Sec. 7.** RCW 41.59.935 and 1990 c 33 s 571 are each amended to read  
34 as follows:

35 Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to grant employers or  
36 employees the right to reach agreements:

37 (1) Regarding salary or compensation increases in excess of those  
38 authorized in accordance with RCW 28A.150.410 and 28A.400.200 ; or

1        (2) Limiting the employer's authority to contract with or offer to  
2 contract with an individual for the purpose of an alternative teaching  
3 certificate under section 2 of this act.

4        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 8.**    Alternative certification under this act  
5 shall be available beginning in the 1997-98 school year.

6        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 9.**    Sections 1 through 3 of this act are each  
7 added to chapter 28A.410 RCW.

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