
HOUSE BILL 1669

State of Washington

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1997 Regular Session

By Representatives Johnson, Talcott, Mulliken, Sterk, Carlson, Hickel, Smith, Sump, D. Schmidt, Wensman, Sheahan, Clements, Boldt, Schoesler and Sullivan

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1 AN ACT Relating to alternative teacher certification; amending RCW
2 28A.410.025, 28A.410.040, and 28A.150.410; adding new sections to
3 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 in the arts, humanities, or
11 sciences from an institution of higher education accredited by the
12 northwest association of schools and colleges or an equivalent
13 accrediting organization;

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

1 or knowledge of the subject area shall meet the requirements for an
2 endorsement or endorsements in the relevant subject area or areas;

3 (3) Complete the national teachers' examination general knowledge
4 test or a test of general achievement recommended by the state board of
5 education, and achieve a score acceptable to the district to determine
6 if the person's basic skills in reading, writing, and mathematics are
7 sufficient to perform satisfactorily as a teacher. The local school
8 board shall determine the standard level of performance necessary to
9 fulfill this requirement;

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

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

18 (6) Possess a written agreement with the school district to
19 complete a one-year residency to provide instructional services in the
20 district.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The alternative teacher certificate allows
22 the holder full authority to serve as a part-time or full-time teacher.
23 The district shall report the issuance of all alternative teaching
24 certificates to the state board of education. Alternative certificates
25 issued under section 1 of this act are valid for one year only.

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

32 After successful completion of the one-year residency, the district
33 shall present the individual to the state board of education for
34 initial certification by the state. The state board shall grant
35 initial certification in accordance with RCW 28A.410.040 to those
36 presented by the board without requiring additional coursework or
37 experience to meet initial certification requirements.

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

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

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

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

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

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

33 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall calculate salary
34 allocations for state funded basic education certificated instructional
35 staff by determining the district average salary for basic education
36 instructional staff using the salary allocation schedule established
37 pursuant to this section. However, no district shall receive an

1 allocation based upon an average basic education certificated
2 instructional staff salary which is less than the average of the
3 district's 1986-87 actual basic education certificated instructional
4 staff salaries, as reported to the superintendent of public instruction
5 prior to June 1, 1987, and the legislature may grant minimum salary
6 increases on that base: PROVIDED, That the superintendent of public
7 instruction may adjust this allocation based upon the education and
8 experience of the district's certificated instructional staff and in
9 accordance with subsection (4) of this section.

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

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

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

19 (4) In determining state allocations and salaries for individuals
20 participating in the alternative certification program under section 2
21 of this act, the school district shall consider the individual's
22 education and employment experience, including employment experience in
23 noneducation employment that is relevant to the individual's
24 performance as a teacher.

25 NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. Alternative certification under this act
26 shall be available beginning in the 1997-98 school year.

27 NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. Sections 1 through 3 of this act are each
28 added to chapter 28A.410 RCW.

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