COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Rep. Don Carlson, Republican Co-Chair Rep. Phyllis Kenney, Democratic Co-Chair and

BILL ANALYSIS « HB 1729

Brief Description: Creating a teacher training pilot program.

Background: Nationwide it is predicted that it is necessary to recruit and train more than 2.2 million teachers over the next decade. According to the Office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, teacher attrition rates have increased by 70 percent since 1990. Additionally, between 1990 and 1996, the number of teachers with 25 or more years of experience grew by 28 percent. These increases in attrition and retirement rates have generated new efforts to attract and retain teachers in the profession.

Summary: The teacher training pilot program is created. The Higher Education Coordinating Board, in consultation with the State Board of Education will administer the program. Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis to institutions of higher education. Priority is given to proposals that involve shared facilities, shared resources and co-curricular planning.

The outcomes for the first year of the biennium are listed. The outcomes include: (1) designing a college level course for high school students interested in teaching; (2) designing lower division courses that support K-12 education reform; (3) designing an educational studies minor; (4) designing mentoring and service learning activities at the community college level; and (4) designing a certification process that involves course work and internships.

The Higher Education Coordinating Board shall submit an annual written report beginning in December 2001.