

2 **2SHB 1607** - S COMM AMD
3 By Committee on Education

4

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds and declares:

8 (1) Teacher qualifications and effectiveness are the most important
9 influences on student learning in schools.

10 (2) Preparation of individuals to become well-qualified, effective
11 teachers must be high quality.

12 (3) Teachers who complete high-quality alternative route programs
13 with intensive field-based experience, adequate coursework, and strong
14 mentorship do as well or better than teachers who complete traditional
15 preparation programs.

16 (4) High-quality alternative route programs can provide more
17 flexibility and expedience for individuals to transition from their
18 current career to teaching.

19 (5) High-quality alternative route programs can help school
20 districts fill subject matter shortage areas and areas with shortages
21 due to geographic location.

22 (6) Regardless of route, all candidates for residency teacher
23 certification must meet the high standards required by the state.

24 The legislature recognizes widespread concerns about the potential
25 for teacher shortages and finds that classified instructional staff in
26 public schools represent a great untapped resource for recruiting the
27 teachers of the future.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** There is hereby created a statewide
29 partnership grant program to provide new high-quality alternative
30 routes to residency teacher certification. To the extent funds are
31 appropriated for this specific purpose, funds provided under this
32 partnership grant program shall be used solely for school districts, or
33 consortia of school districts, to partner with state-approved higher
34 education teacher preparation programs to provide one or more of three
35 alternative route programs in section 5 of this act, aimed at

1 recruiting candidates to teaching in subject matter shortage areas and
2 areas with shortages due to geographic location. Districts, or
3 consortia of districts, may also include their educational service
4 districts in their partnership grant program. Partnership programs
5 receiving grants may enroll candidates as early as January 2002.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) Each district or consortia of school
7 districts applying for state funds through this program shall submit a
8 proposal to the Washington professional educator standards board
9 specifying:

10 (a) The route or routes the partnership program intends to offer
11 and a detailed description of how the routes will be structured and
12 operated by the partnership;

13 (b) The number of candidates that will be enrolled per route;

14 (c) An identification, indication of commitment, and description of
15 the role of approved teacher preparation programs that are partnering
16 with the district or consortia of districts;

17 (d) An assurance of district provision of adequate training for
18 mentor teachers either through participation in a state mentor training
19 academy or district-provided training that meets state-established
20 mentor-training standards specific to the mentoring of alternative
21 route candidates;

22 (e) An assurance that significant time will be provided for mentor
23 teachers to spend with the alternative route teacher candidates
24 throughout the internship. Partnerships must provide each candidate
25 with intensive classroom mentoring until such time as the candidate
26 demonstrates the competency necessary to manage the classroom with less
27 intensive supervision and guidance from a mentor. The mentor of the
28 teacher candidate at the school and the supervisor of the teacher
29 candidate from the higher education teacher preparation program must
30 both agree that the teacher candidate is ready to manage the classroom
31 with less intensive supervision before the supervision is diminished;

32 (f) A description of the rigorous screening process for applicants
33 to alternative route programs, including entry requirements specific to
34 each route, as provided in section 5 of this act; and

35 (g) The design and use of a teacher development plan for each
36 candidate. The plan shall specify the alternative route coursework and
37 training required of each candidate and shall be developed by comparing
38 the candidate's prior experience and coursework with the state's new

1 performance-based standards for residency certification and adjusting
2 any requirements accordingly. The plan shall include the following
3 components:

4 (i) A minimum of one-half of a school year, and an additional
5 significant amount of time if necessary, of intensive mentorship,
6 starting with full-time mentoring and progressing to increasingly less
7 intensive monitoring and assistance as the intern demonstrates the
8 skills necessary to take over the classroom with less intensive
9 support;

10 (ii) Identification of performance indicators based on the
11 knowledge and skills standards required for residency certification by
12 the state board of education;

13 (iii) Identification of benchmarks that will indicate when the
14 standard is met for all performance indicators;

15 (iv) A description of strategies for assessing candidate
16 performance on the benchmarks;

17 (v) Identification of one or more tools to be used to assess a
18 candidate's performance once the candidate has been in the classroom
19 for about one-half of a school year; and

20 (vi) A description of the criteria that would result in residency
21 certification after about one-half of a school year but before the end
22 of the program.

23 (2) Districts may apply for program funds to pay stipends to both
24 mentor teachers and interns during their mentored internship. For both
25 intern stipends and accompanying mentor stipends, the per intern
26 district request for funds may not exceed the amount designated by the
27 BA+0 cell on the statewide teacher salary allocation schedule. This
28 amount shall be prorated for internships and mentorships that last less
29 than a full school year. Interns in the program for a full year shall
30 be provided a stipend of at least eighty percent of the amount
31 generated by the BA+0 cell on the statewide teacher salary allocation
32 schedule. This amount shall be prorated for internships that last less
33 than a full school year.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The professional educator standards
35 board, with support from the office of the superintendent of public
36 instruction, shall select school districts and consortia of school
37 districts to receive partnership grants from funds appropriated by the

1 legislature for this purpose. Factors to be considered in selecting
2 proposals include:

3 (a) The degree to which the district, or consortia of districts in
4 partnership, are currently experiencing teacher shortages;

5 (b) The degree to which the proposal addresses criteria specified
6 in section 3 of this act and is in keeping with specifications of
7 program routes in section 5 of this act;

8 (c) The cost-effectiveness of the proposed program; and

9 (d) Any demonstrated district and in-kind contributions to the
10 program.

11 (2) Selection of proposals shall also take into consideration the
12 need to ensure an adequate number of candidates for each type of route
13 in order to evaluate their success.

14 (3) Funds appropriated for the partnership grant program in this
15 chapter shall be administered by the office of the superintendent of
16 public instruction.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Partnership grants funded under this chapter
18 shall operate one to three specific route programs. Successful
19 completion of the program shall make a candidate eligible for residency
20 teacher certification. The mentor of the teacher candidate at the
21 school and the supervisor of the teacher candidate from the higher
22 education teacher preparation program must both agree that the teacher
23 candidate has successfully completed the program.

24 (1) Partnership grant programs seeking funds to operate route one
25 programs shall enroll currently employed classified instructional
26 employees with transferable associate degrees seeking residency teacher
27 certification with endorsements in special education or English as a
28 second language. It is anticipated that candidates enrolled in this
29 route will complete both their baccalaureate degree and requirements
30 for residency certification in two years or less, including a mentored
31 internship to be completed in the final year. In addition, partnership
32 programs shall uphold entry requirements for candidates that include:

33 (a) District or building validation of qualifications, including
34 three years of successful student interaction and leadership as a
35 classified instructional employee;

36 (b) Successful passage of the statewide basic skills exam, when
37 available; and

1 (c) Meeting the age, good moral character, and personal fitness
2 requirements adopted by rule for teachers.

3 (2) Partnership grant programs seeking funds to operate route two
4 programs shall enroll currently employed classified staff with
5 baccalaureate degrees seeking residency teacher certification in
6 subject matter shortage areas and areas with shortages due to
7 geographic location. Candidates enrolled in this route must complete
8 a mentored internship complemented by flexibly scheduled training and
9 coursework offered at a local site, such as a school or educational
10 service district, or online or via video-conference over the K-20
11 network, in collaboration with the partnership program's higher
12 education partner. In addition, partnership grant programs shall
13 uphold entry requirements for candidates that include:

14 (a) District or building validation of qualifications, including
15 three years of successful student interaction and leadership as
16 classified staff;

17 (b) A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution
18 of higher education. The individual's college or university grade
19 point average may be considered as a selection factor;

20 (c) Successful completion of the content test, once the state
21 content test is available;

22 (d) Meeting the age, good moral character, and personal fitness
23 requirements adopted by rule for teachers; and

24 (e) Successful passage of the statewide basic skills exam, when
25 available.

26 (3) Partnership grant programs seeking funds to operate route three
27 programs shall enroll individuals with baccalaureate degrees, who are
28 not employed in the district at the time of application, or who hold
29 emergency substitute certificates. When selecting candidates for
30 certification through route three, districts shall give priority to
31 individuals who are seeking residency teacher certification in subject
32 matter shortage areas or shortages due to geographic locations. For
33 route three only, the districts may include additional candidates in
34 nonshortage subject areas if the candidates are seeking endorsements
35 with a secondary grade level designation as defined by rule by the
36 state board of education. The districts shall disclose to candidates
37 in nonshortage subject areas available information on the demand in
38 those subject areas. Cohorts of candidates for this route shall attend
39 an intensive summer teaching academy, followed by a full year employed

1 by a district in a mentored internship, followed, if necessary, by a
2 second summer teaching academy. In addition, partnership programs
3 shall uphold entry requirements for candidates that include:

4 (a) Five years' experience in the work force;

5 (b) A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution
6 of higher education. The individual's grade point average may be
7 considered as a selection factor;

8 (c) Successful completion of the content test, once the state
9 content test is available;

10 (d) External validation of qualifications, including demonstrated
11 successful experience with students or children, such as references
12 letters and letters of support from previous employers;

13 (e) Meeting the age, good moral character, and personal fitness
14 requirements adopted by rule for teachers; and

15 (f) Successful passage of statewide basic skills exams, when
16 available.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The alternative route conditional
18 scholarship program is created under the following guidelines:

19 (1) The program shall be administered by the higher education
20 coordinating board. In administering the program, the higher education
21 coordinating board has the following powers and duties:

22 (a) To adopt necessary rules and develop guidelines to administer
23 the program;

24 (b) To collect and manage repayments from participants who do not
25 meet their service obligations; and

26 (c) To accept grants and donations from public and private sources
27 for the program.

28 (2) The Washington professional educator standards board shall
29 select interns who are eligible to receive conditional scholarships.

30 (3) In order to receive conditional scholarship awards, recipients
31 shall be accepted and maintain enrollment in alternative certification
32 routes through the partnership grant program, as provided in section 5
33 of this act. Recipients must continue to make satisfactory progress
34 towards completion of the alternative route certification program and
35 receipt of a residency teaching certificate.

36 (4) For the purpose of this chapter, a conditional scholarship is
37 a loan that is forgiven in whole or in part in exchange for service as
38 a certificated teacher employed in a Washington state K-12 public

1 school. The state shall forgive one year of loan obligation for every
2 two years a recipient teaches in a public school. Recipients that fail
3 to continue a course of study leading to residency teacher
4 certification or cease to teach in a public school in the state of
5 Washington in their endorsement area are required to repay the
6 remaining loan principal with interest.

7 (5) Recipients who fail to fulfill the required teaching obligation
8 are required to repay the remaining loan principal with interest and
9 any other applicable fees. The higher education coordinating board
10 shall adopt rules to define the terms for repayment, including
11 applicable interest rates, fees, and deferments.

12 (6) To the extent funds are appropriated for this specific purpose,
13 the annual amount of the scholarship is the annual cost of tuition for
14 the alternative route certification program in which the recipient is
15 enrolled, not to exceed four thousand dollars. The board may adjust
16 the annual award by the average rate of resident undergraduate tuition
17 and fee increases at the state universities as defined in RCW
18 28B.10.016.

19 (7) The higher education coordinating board may deposit all
20 appropriations, collections, and any other funds received for the
21 program in this chapter in the student loan account authorized in RCW
22 28B.102.060.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** This chapter expires June 30, 2005.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** The Washington state institute for public
25 policy shall submit to the education and fiscal committees of the
26 legislature, the governor, the state board of education, and the
27 Washington professional educator standards board, an interim evaluation
28 of partnership grant programs funded under this chapter by December 1,
29 2002, and a final evaluation by December 1, 2004. If specific funding
30 for the purposes of this section, referencing this section and this act
31 by bill or chapter number, is not provided by June 30, 2001, in the
32 omnibus appropriations act, this section is null and void.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** Sections 1 through 8 and 10 of this act
34 constitute a new chapter in Title 28A RCW.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** School districts or approved private
2 schools' ability to employ personnel under certification for emergency
3 or temporary, substitute, or provisional duty as authorized by chapter
4 28A.410 RCW are not affected by the provisions of this act."

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8 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "certification;" strike the
9 remainder of the title and insert "adding a new chapter to Title 28A
10 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date."

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