(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 2ND SUB)

Finds that the professional certification process required of new teachers and experienced teachers from out of state is intended to provide candidates with a method for advancing their teaching skills and demonstrating their ability to improve student achievement.

Finds that the implementation of the professional certification process has faced unresolved challenges that include wide variations in the quality, relevance, and cost of different certification programs.

Declares an intent to direct state agencies to address issues of educator preparation.

Directs the professional educator standards board to biennially review preparation programs leading to professional certification.

Requires that, beginning in 2008, to the extent possible, the review shall include the impact on student work and achievement of educators who have obtained professional certification.

Requires the professional educator standards board to report the results of the review to the education and higher education committees of the senate and house of representatives by December 1, 2005, and December 1st of each odd-numbered year thereafter. The report shall include: The board's findings by institution; a summary of each institution's improvement plan; a description of exemplary practices; and any specific plans for agency technical assistance and support to the individual programs.

Provides that all powers, duties, and functions of the office of the superintendent of public instruction pertaining to professional educator certification are transferred to the professional educator standards board.