(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.