
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2504

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives McMahan, Brumsickle, Johnson, Thompson, Elliot, D. Sommers, Sterk, B. Thomas and Goldsmith)

Read first time 01/30/96.

1 AN ACT Relating to alternate teacher certification; amending RCW
2 28A.150.410; adding a new section to chapter 28A.410 RCW; and creating
3 a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature to
6 attract career professionals from diverse backgrounds into the teaching
7 profession and prevent teacher shortages by making alternate teacher
8 certification available to persons with baccalaureate degrees and
9 relevant work experience or sufficient knowledge of the subject area to
10 be taught. The alternate certificate established under section 2 of
11 this act allows eligible persons to enter the classroom under the
12 guidance and supervision of a school district and to qualify for
13 initial teacher certification upon satisfactory completion of two years
14 of full-time teaching.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.410
16 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) An individual may obtain an alternate teaching certificate that
2 allows the individual to teach in the state of Washington. Each
3 candidate for an alternate teacher's certificate shall:

4 (a) Possess a baccalaureate degree in the arts, sciences, or
5 humanities from a college or university accredited by the Northwest
6 association of schools and colleges or an equivalent accrediting
7 organization;

8 (b) Have at least five years' work experience relevant to the
9 subject area in which he or she is seeking an endorsement or
10 endorsements, or sufficient knowledge of the subject area to be taught.
11 The superintendent of the school district shall determine, on a case-
12 by-case basis, what constitutes sufficient knowledge. This work
13 experience or knowledge of the subject area shall meet the requirements
14 for an endorsement or endorsements in the relevant subject area or
15 areas;

16 (c) Meet the age and character requirements established by the
17 state board of education for all certificated school staff, including
18 compliance with the background check through the Washington state
19 patrol criminal investigation system and the federal bureau of
20 investigation as required under RCW 28A.410.010; and

21 (d) Possess a contract for employment in a school district of the
22 state.

23 (2) Before beginning teaching under the alternate teacher
24 certificate, the candidate shall develop with his or her employing
25 school district a written plan for training, supervision, guidance, and
26 support to be provided to the candidate by the district for the
27 duration of the alternate certificate. The plan shall include, but not
28 be limited to, assignment by the district of a mentor teacher and
29 completion of evaluations under the school district's teacher
30 evaluation procedures. School districts may require candidates to
31 successfully complete preservice training before and during teaching.
32 However, school districts may not require that candidates participate
33 in more training than is required of other teachers in the school
34 district.

35 (3) The alternate teacher certificate allows the holder full
36 authority to serve as a part-time or full-time teacher. The
37 certificate shall be valid for not more than two years of full-time
38 teaching or its equivalent. A person desiring to teach beyond the
39 expiration date of his or her alternate certificate shall apply for

1 initial certification, or its equivalent, with the state board of
2 education. Such certification shall be conditioned upon the
3 satisfaction of all requirements in this section, two years of
4 successful teaching as determined by the evaluation criteria used in
5 the school district for teachers, and a recommendation by the principal
6 supervising the candidate. State certification shall not require
7 additional course work or experience.

8 (4) Alternate certification developed under this section shall be
9 available beginning in the 1996-97 school year.

10 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.150.410 and 1990 c 33 s 118 are each amended to
11 read as follows:

12 (1) The legislature shall establish for each school year in the
13 appropriations act a state-wide salary allocation schedule, for
14 allocation purposes only, to be used to distribute funds for basic
15 education certificated instructional staff salaries under RCW
16 28A.150.260.

17 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall calculate salary
18 allocations for state funded basic education certificated instructional
19 staff by determining the district average salary for basic education
20 instructional staff using the salary allocation schedule established
21 pursuant to this section. However, no district shall receive an
22 allocation based upon an average basic education certificated
23 instructional staff salary which is less than the average of the
24 district's 1986-87 actual basic education certificated instructional
25 staff salaries, as reported to the superintendent of public instruction
26 prior to June 1, 1987, and the legislature may grant minimum salary
27 increases on that base: PROVIDED, That the superintendent of public
28 instruction may adjust this allocation based upon the education and
29 experience of the district's certificated instructional staff and in
30 accordance with subsection (4) of this section.

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

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

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

3 (4) In determining state allocations and salaries for individuals
4 participating in the alternate certification program under section 2 of
5 this act, the school district shall consider the individual's education
6 and employment experience, including employment experience in
7 noneducation employment that is relevant to the individual's
8 performance as a teacher.

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