

ESSB 5983 - H COMM AMD
By Committee on Education

ADOPTED AS AMENDED 04/14/2005

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes the importance
4 of ongoing professional development and growth for teachers with the
5 goal of improving student achievement. It is the intent of the
6 legislature to ensure that professional certification is administered
7 in such a way as to ensure that the professional development and growth
8 of individual teachers is directly aligned to their current and future
9 teaching responsibilities as professional educators.

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

12 The agency responsible for educator certification shall adopt rules
13 for professional certification that:

14 (1) Provide maximum program choice for applicants, promote
15 portability among programs, and promote maximum efficiency for
16 applicants in attaining professional certification;

17 (2) Require professional certification no earlier than the fifth
18 year following the year that the teacher first completes provisional
19 status, with an automatic two-year extension upon enrollment;

20 (3) Grant professional certification to any teacher who attains
21 certification from the national board for professional teaching
22 standards;

23 (4) Permit any teacher currently enrolled in or participating in a
24 program leading to professional certification to continue the program
25 under administrative rules in place when the teacher began the program;

26 (5) Provide criteria for the approval of educational service
27 districts, beginning no later than August 31, 2007, to offer programs
28 leading to professional certification. The rules shall be written to
29 encourage institutions of higher education and educational service

1 districts to partner with local school districts or consortia of school
2 districts, as appropriate, to provide instruction for teachers seeking
3 professional certification;

4 (6) Encourage institutions of higher education to offer
5 professional certificate coursework as continuing education credit
6 hours. This shall not prevent an institution of higher education from
7 providing the option of including the professional certification
8 requirements as part of a master's degree program;

9 (7) Provide criteria for a liaison relationship between approved
10 programs and school districts in which applicants are employed;

11 (8) Identify an expedited professional certification process for
12 out-of-state teachers who have five years or more of successful
13 teaching experience to demonstrate skills and impact on student
14 learning commensurate with Washington requirements for professional
15 certification. The rules may require these teachers, within one year
16 of the time they begin to teach in the state's public schools, take a
17 course in or show evidence that they can teach to the state's essential
18 academic learning requirements; and

19 (9) Identify an evaluation process of approved programs that
20 includes a review of the program coursework and applicant coursework
21 load requirements, linkages of programs to individual teacher
22 professional growth plans, linkages to school district and school
23 improvement plans, and, to the extent possible, linkages to school
24 district professional enrichment and growth programs for teachers,
25 where such programs are in place in school districts. The agency shall
26 provide a preliminary report on the evaluation process to the senate
27 and house of representatives committees on education policy by November
28 1, 2005. The board shall identify:

29 (a) A process for awarding conditional approval of a program that
30 shall include annual evaluations of the program until the program is
31 awarded full approval;

32 (b) A less intensive evaluation cycle every three years once a
33 program receives full approval unless the responsible agency has reason
34 to intensify the evaluation;

35 (c) A method for investigating programs that have received numerous
36 complaints from students enrolled in the program and from those
37 recently completing the program;

1 (d) A method for investigating programs at the reasonable
2 discretion of the agency; and

3 (e) A method for using, in the evaluation, both program completer
4 satisfaction responses and data on the impact of educators who have
5 obtained professional certification on student work and achievement."

6 Correct the title.

--- END ---