(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Requires the state board of education, with advice from the professional educator standards board, to develop certification requirements for teachers of deaf and hard of hearing students. The certification shall be focused on the specific skills and knowledge necessary to serve the education and communication needs of deaf and hard of hearing students, and the certification may be limited to work with such students.

Provides that, in establishing rules for certification of teachers who will be working almost exclusively with students who are deaf or hard of hearing, the state board of education shall consider applicants to have met state endorsement requirements if they possess a baccalaureate or master's degree in deaf education from a teacher training program approved by the council on education of the deaf.