

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6726

Chapter 176, Laws of 2008

60th Legislature
2008 Regular Session

PROFESSIONAL TEACHING CERTIFICATE--ASSESSMENT

EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/12/08

Passed by the Senate February 13, 2008
YEAS 48 NAYS 0

BRAD OWEN

President of the Senate

Passed by the House March 7, 2008
YEAS 93 NAYS 1

FRANK CHOPP

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved March 26, 2008, 10:22 a.m.

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6726** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

THOMAS HOEMANN

Secretary

FILED

March 26, 2008

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6726

Passed Legislature - 2008 Regular Session

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education (originally sponsored by Senators Tom, McAuliffe, and Rasmussen)

READ FIRST TIME 02/08/08.

1 AN ACT Relating to the professional educator standards board
2 establishing a professional-level certification assessment; and
3 amending RCW 28A.410.210 and 28A.410.220.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.410.210 and 2005 c 497 s 201 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 The purpose of the professional educator standards board is to
8 establish policies and requirements for the preparation and
9 certification of educators that provide standards for competency in
10 professional knowledge and practice in the areas of certification; a
11 foundation of skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to help
12 students with diverse needs, abilities, cultural experiences, and
13 learning styles meet or exceed the learning goals outlined in RCW
14 28A.150.210; knowledge of research-based practice; and professional
15 development throughout a career. The Washington professional educator
16 standards board shall:

17 (1) Establish policies and practices for the approval of programs
18 of courses, requirements, and other activities leading to educator

- 1 certification including teacher, school administrator, and educational
2 staff associate certification;
- 3 (2) Establish policies and practices for the approval of the
4 character of work required to be performed as a condition of entrance
5 to and graduation from any educator preparation program including
6 teacher, school administrator, and educational staff associate
7 preparation program as provided in subsection (1) of this section;
- 8 (3) Establish a list of accredited institutions of higher education
9 of this and other states whose graduates may be awarded educator
10 certificates as teacher, school administrator, and educational staff
11 associate and establish criteria and enter into agreements with other
12 states to acquire reciprocal approval of educator preparation programs
13 and certification, including teacher certification from the national
14 board for professional teaching standards;
- 15 (4) Establish policies for approval of nontraditional educator
16 preparation programs;
- 17 (5) Conduct a review of educator program approval standards at
18 least every five years, beginning in 2006, to reflect research findings
19 and assure continued improvement of preparation programs for teachers,
20 administrators, and school specialized personnel;
- 21 (6) Specify the types and kinds of educator certificates to be
22 issued and conditions for certification in accordance with subsection
23 (1) of this section and RCW 28A.410.010;
- 24 (7) Hear and determine educator certification appeals as provided
25 by RCW 28A.410.100;
- 26 (8) Apply for and receive federal or other funds on behalf of the
27 state for purposes related to the duties of the board;
- 28 (9) Adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW that are necessary for the
29 effective and efficient implementation of this chapter;
- 30 (10) Maintain data concerning educator preparation programs and
31 their quality, educator certification, educator employment trends and
32 needs, and other data deemed relevant by the board;
- 33 (11) Serve as an advisory body to the superintendent of public
34 instruction on issues related to educator recruitment, hiring,
35 mentoring and support, professional growth, retention, educator
36 evaluation including but not limited to peer evaluation, and revocation
37 and suspension of licensure;

1 (12) Submit, by October 15th of each even-numbered year, a joint
2 report with the state board of education to the legislative education
3 committees, the governor, and the superintendent of public instruction.
4 The report shall address the progress the boards have made and the
5 obstacles they have encountered, individually and collectively, in the
6 work of achieving the goals set out in RCW 28A.150.210;

7 (13) Establish the prospective teacher assessment system for basic
8 skills and subject knowledge that shall be required to obtain residency
9 certification pursuant to RCW 28A.410.220 through 28A.410.240; (~~and~~)

10 (14) By January 2010, set performance standards and develop, pilot,
11 and implement a uniform and externally administered professional-level
12 certification assessment based on demonstrated teaching skill. In the
13 development of this assessment, consideration shall be given to changes
14 in professional certification program components such as the
15 culminating seminar; and

16 (15) Conduct meetings under the provisions of chapter 42.30 RCW.

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.410.220 and 2002 c 92 s 2 are each amended to read
18 as follows:

19 (1)(a) Beginning not later than September 1, 2001, the Washington
20 professional educator standards board shall make available and pilot a
21 means of assessing an applicant's knowledge in the basic skills. For
22 the purposes of this section, "basic skills" means the subjects of at
23 least reading, writing, and mathematics. Beginning September 1, 2002,
24 except as provided in (c) of this subsection and subsection (~~(+3)~~) (4)
25 of this section, passing this assessment shall be required for
26 admission to approved teacher preparation programs and for persons from
27 out-of-state applying for a Washington state residency teaching
28 certificate.

29 (b) On an individual student basis, approved teacher preparation
30 programs may admit into their programs a candidate who has not achieved
31 the minimum basic skills assessment score established by the Washington
32 professional educator standards board. Individuals so admitted may not
33 receive residency certification without passing the basic skills
34 assessment under this section.

35 (c) The Washington professional educator standards board may
36 establish criteria to ensure that persons from out-of-state who are
37 applying for residency certification and persons applying to master's

1 degree level teacher preparation programs can demonstrate to the
2 board's satisfaction that they have the requisite basic skills based
3 upon having completed another basic skills assessment acceptable to the
4 Washington professional educator standards board or by some other
5 alternative approved by the Washington professional educator standards
6 board.

7 (2) The professional educator standards board shall set performance
8 standards and develop, pilot, and implement a uniform and externally
9 administered professional-level certification assessment based on
10 demonstrated teaching skill. In the development of this assessment,
11 consideration shall be given to changes in professional certification
12 program components such as the culminating seminar.

13 (3) Beginning not later than September 1, 2002, the Washington
14 professional educator standards board shall provide for the initial
15 piloting and implementation of a means of assessing an applicant's
16 knowledge in the subjects for which the applicant has applied for an
17 endorsement to his or her residency or professional teaching
18 certificate. The assessment of subject knowledge shall not include
19 instructional methodology. Beginning September 1, 2005, passing this
20 assessment shall be required to receive an endorsement for
21 certification purposes.

22 ~~((+3))~~ (4) The Washington professional educator standards board
23 may permit exceptions from the assessment requirements under
24 subsections (1) ~~((and))~~, (2), and (3) of this section on a case-by-case
25 basis.

26 ~~((+4))~~ (5) The Washington professional educator standards board
27 shall provide for reasonable accommodations for individuals who are
28 required to take the assessments in subsection (1) ~~((or))~~, (2), or (3)
29 of this section if the individuals have learning or other disabilities.

30 ~~((+5))~~ (6) With the exception of applicants exempt from the
31 requirements of subsections (1) ~~((and))~~, (2), and (3) of this section,
32 an applicant must achieve a minimum assessment score or scores
33 established by the Washington professional educator standards board on
34 each of the assessments under subsections (1) ~~((and))~~, (2), and (3) of
35 this section.

36 ~~((+6))~~ (7) The Washington professional educator standards board
37 and superintendent of public instruction, as determined by the

1 Washington professional educator standards board, may contract with one
2 or more third parties for:

3 (a) The development, purchase, administration, scoring, and
4 reporting of scores of the assessments established by the Washington
5 professional educator standards board under subsections (1) (~~and~~),
6 (2), and (3) of this section;

7 (b) Related clerical and administrative activities; or

8 (c) Any combination of the purposes in this subsection.

9 (~~(7)~~) (8) Applicants for admission to a Washington teacher
10 preparation program and applicants for residency and professional
11 certificates who are required to successfully complete one or more of
12 the assessments under subsections (1) (~~and~~), (2), and (3) of this
13 section, and who are charged a fee for the assessment by a third party
14 contracted with under subsection (~~(6)~~) (7) of this section, shall pay
15 the fee charged by the contractor directly to the contractor. Such
16 fees shall be reasonably related to the actual costs of the contractor
17 in providing the assessment.

18 (~~(8)~~) (9) The superintendent of public instruction is responsible
19 for supervision and providing support services to administer this
20 section.

21 (~~(9)~~) (10) The Washington professional educator standards board
22 shall collaboratively select or develop and implement the assessments
23 and minimum assessment scores required under this section with the
24 superintendent of public instruction and shall provide opportunities
25 for representatives of other interested educational organizations to
26 participate in the selection or development and implementation of such
27 assessments in a manner deemed appropriate by the Washington
28 professional educator standards board.

29 (~~(10)~~) (11) The Washington professional educator standards board
30 shall adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW that are reasonably necessary
31 for the effective and efficient implementation of this section.

Passed by the Senate February 13, 2008.

Passed by the House March 7, 2008.

Approved by the Governor March 26, 2008.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 26, 2008.