

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/13/15

Action: Do Pass. Refer To Ways And Means.

Meeting Dates: 04/03, 04/13

Vote:

Yeas: 9 - Barreto, Doherty, Frederick, Hack, McLain, Piluso, Reardon, Sprenger, Wilson

Prepared By: Richard Donovan, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) to use moneys in National Board Certification Fund to assist candidates with expenses related to attaining certification through National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (National Board). Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Value of National Board certification to teachers
- Certification as especially valuable to experienced teachers, namely teachers with three to five years teaching experience
- Certified teachers' ability to bring expertise back to school to disseminate best practices to other teachers
- Relative lack of certified teachers compared to Washington state; currently 313 certified teachers in Oregon versus 8,196 certified teachers in Washington
- Certification as cost-prohibitive on individual teacher salary
- \$100,000 allotment leading to 50 teacher certification
- History of past grant program managed by TSPC, with notification to teachers managed by Oregon Education Association

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, ORS 342.122 provides for the operation of the National Board Certification Fund to encourage public school teachers and administrators to apply for and attain certification through the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

House Bill 3180 expands the regulation of the distribution of the moneys in the fund to specify that the TSPC manage the fund to provide continuous support to at least 50 candidates per year. The bill further requires that 50 percent of funds are to be provided to a candidate as a grant, and 50 percent are to be provided to a candidate as a loan that may be forgiven upon completion of three years of employment at a low-performing school.