

Legislative Fiscal Office

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Joint Committee on Ways and Means

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To: Education Subcommittee

From: Doug Wilson, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: June 16, 2021

Subject: SB 129 – Relating to moneys collected by the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
Work Session Recommendations

The introduced version of SB 129 provides authority to the Teachers Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) to establish new fees on Education Preparation Providers (e.g., colleges and universities), school districts and education service districts (ESDs). The bill also allows an administrative law judge to award TSPC reasonable attorney fees and court costs when the Commission prevails. It allows the Commission to impose civil penalties on those licensees subject to disciplinary action and also increases the maximum charge for license reinstatement.

The -3 amendment removes the provisions related to establishing fees for school districts and education service districts, and awarding of reasonable attorney fees and court costs. It does continue the fees for the Educator Preparation Providers (EPPs) relating to the number of license applications and the type of programs they offer. The fees on the EPPs sunset on January 1, 2026. The amendment also transfers the balance of the National Board Certification Fund on June 30, 2021 to the TSPC operating account to offset some of the need to increase fees on educators. There is an estimated \$1.4 million in the Fund at this time. This program has seen little use since it was started in 2017 and the staff costs exceed the assistance to educators that are working on their certification.

Recommended Changes

LFO recommends adoption of the -3 amendment.

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that SB 129, as amended by the -3 amendment, to be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____