

Submitter: Scott Hays
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB279

Senate Committee on Education

I support the intent of SB 279. I would have greatly appreciated the existence of such a compact when I first moved to Oregon in 2005. I taught in California for 24 years (not counting a three year stint of providing professional development to teachers in three counties surrounding the Monterey Bay Area as a staff developer for an NSF-funded Local Systemic Change Initiative program called LASERS ... Language Acquisition through Science Education in Rural Schools), was an elected board member of the California Science Teachers Association, had been recognized as the Elementary Science Teacher of the Year by the State Board of Education (1987), and was extremely active in educational reform efforts across the state. I share these details because besides making it far simpler for me to receive a license to continuing teaching in Oregon, had SB 279 been in force, I believe the state of Oregon would have benefited from my experience and skills. Instead, I took part time positions with the Saturday Academy and then a summer job (for three years) at the Oregon Zoo as a "Naturalist," where (among other things) I helped author a series of outreach units of study for use in Portland area public schools. I am certain there are many skilled teachers living in Oregon, right now, who would serve the state (and the state's students) well if receiving a license was expedited.

I strongly encourage you move this bill forward.