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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6245**

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**State of Washington**

**58th Legislature**

**2004 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Senators Zarelli, Regala, Winsley and Rasmussen)

READ FIRST TIME 02/04/04.

1       AN ACT Relating to residency teacher certification partnership  
2 programs; amending RCW 28A.660.010, 28A.660.020, 28A.660.030,  
3 28A.660.040, and 28A.660.901; repealing RCW 28A.660.900; and providing  
4 an expiration date.

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

6       **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.660.010 and 2001 c 158 s 2 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8       There is hereby created a statewide partnership grant program to  
9 provide new high-quality alternative routes to residency teacher  
10 certification. To the extent funds are appropriated for this specific  
11 purpose, funds provided under this partnership grant program shall be  
12 used solely for school districts, or consortia of school districts, to  
13 partner with state-approved higher education teacher preparation  
14 programs to provide one or more of (~~three~~) four alternative route  
15 programs in RCW 28A.660.040, with routes one, two, and three aimed at  
16 recruiting candidates to teaching in subject matter shortage areas and  
17 areas with shortages due to geographic location. Districts, or  
18 consortia of districts, may also include their educational service

1 districts in their partnership grant program. (~~Partnership programs~~  
2 ~~receiving grants may enroll candidates as early as January 2002.~~)

3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.660.020 and 2003 c 410 s 1 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 (1) Each district or consortia of school districts applying for the  
6 alternative route certification program shall submit a proposal to the  
7 Washington professional educator standards board specifying:

8 (a) The route or routes the partnership program intends to offer  
9 and a detailed description of how the routes will be structured and  
10 operated by the partnership;

11 (b) The number of candidates that will be enrolled per route;

12 (c) An identification, indication of commitment, and description of  
13 the role of approved teacher preparation programs that are partnering  
14 with the district or consortia of districts;

15 (d) An assurance of district provision of adequate training for  
16 mentor teachers either through participation in a state mentor training  
17 academy or district-provided training that meets state-established  
18 mentor-training standards specific to the mentoring of alternative  
19 route candidates;

20 (e) An assurance that significant time will be provided for mentor  
21 teachers to spend with the alternative route teacher candidates  
22 throughout the internship. Partnerships must provide each candidate  
23 with intensive classroom mentoring until such time as the candidate  
24 demonstrates the competency necessary to manage the classroom with less  
25 intensive supervision and guidance from a mentor;

26 (f) A description of the rigorous screening process for applicants  
27 to alternative route programs, including entry requirements specific to  
28 each route, as provided in RCW 28A.660.040; and

29 (g) The design and use of a teacher development plan for each  
30 candidate. The plan shall specify the alternative route coursework and  
31 training required of each candidate and shall be developed by comparing  
32 the candidate's prior experience and coursework with the state's new  
33 performance-based standards for residency certification and adjusting  
34 any requirements accordingly. The plan may include the following  
35 components:

36 (i) A minimum of one-half of a school year, and an additional  
37 significant amount of time if necessary, of intensive mentorship,

1 starting with full-time mentoring and progressing to increasingly less  
2 intensive monitoring and assistance as the intern demonstrates the  
3 skills necessary to take over the classroom with less intensive  
4 support. For route one and two candidates, before the supervision is  
5 diminished, the mentor of the teacher candidate at the school and the  
6 supervisor of the teacher candidate from the higher education teacher  
7 preparation program must both agree that the teacher candidate is ready  
8 to manage the classroom with less intensive supervision. For route  
9 three and four candidates, the mentor of the teacher candidate shall  
10 make the decision;

11 (ii) Identification of performance indicators based on the  
12 knowledge and skills standards required for residency certification by  
13 the state board of education;

14 (iii) Identification of benchmarks that will indicate when the  
15 standard is met for all performance indicators;

16 (iv) A description of strategies for assessing candidate  
17 performance on the benchmarks;

18 (v) Identification of one or more tools to be used to assess a  
19 candidate's performance once the candidate has been in the classroom  
20 for about one-half of a school year; and

21 (vi) A description of the criteria that would result in residency  
22 certification after about one-half of a school year but before the end  
23 of the program.

24 (2) To the extent funds are appropriated for this purpose,  
25 districts may apply for program funds to pay stipends to trained mentor  
26 teachers of interns during the mentored internship. The per intern  
27 amount of mentor stipend shall not exceed five hundred dollars.

28 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.660.030 and 2003 c 410 s 2 are each amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 (1) The professional educator standards board, with support from  
31 the office of the superintendent of public instruction, shall select  
32 school districts and consortia of school districts to receive  
33 partnership grants from funds appropriated by the legislature for this  
34 purpose. Factors to be considered in selecting proposals include, but  
35 are not limited to:

36 (a) For routes one, two, and three, the degree to which the

1 district, or consortia of districts in partnership, are currently  
2 experiencing teacher shortages;

3 (b)(i) For routes one, two, three, and four, the degree to which  
4 the proposal addresses criteria specified in RCW 28A.660.020 and is in  
5 keeping with specifications of program routes in RCW 28A.660.040;

6 ((+e)) (ii) The cost-effectiveness of the proposed program; and

7 ((+d)) (iii) Any demonstrated district and in-kind contributions  
8 to the program.

9 (2) Selection of proposals shall also take into consideration the  
10 need to ensure an adequate number of candidates for each type of route  
11 in order to evaluate their success.

12 (3) Funds appropriated for the partnership grant program in this  
13 chapter shall be administered by the office of the superintendent of  
14 public instruction.

15 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.660.040 and 2001 c 158 s 5 are each amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 Partnership grants funded under this chapter shall operate one to  
18 ((three)) four specific route programs. Successful completion of the  
19 program shall make a candidate eligible for residency teacher  
20 certification. For route one and two candidates, the mentor of the  
21 teacher candidate at the school and the supervisor of the teacher  
22 candidate from the higher education teacher preparation program must  
23 both agree that the teacher candidate has successfully completed the  
24 program. For route three and four candidates, the mentor of the  
25 teacher candidate shall make the determination that the candidate has  
26 successfully completed the program.

27 (1) Partnership grant programs seeking funds to operate route one  
28 programs shall enroll currently employed classified instructional  
29 employees with transferable associate degrees seeking residency teacher  
30 certification with endorsements in special education, bilingual  
31 education, or English as a second language. It is anticipated that  
32 candidates enrolled in this route will complete both their  
33 baccalaureate degree and requirements for residency certification in  
34 two years or less, including a mentored internship to be completed in  
35 the final year. In addition, partnership programs shall uphold entry  
36 requirements for candidates that include:

1 (a) District or building validation of qualifications, including  
2 three years of successful student interaction and leadership as a  
3 classified instructional employee;

4 (b) Successful passage of the statewide basic skills exam, when  
5 available; and

6 (c) Meeting the age, good moral character, and personal fitness  
7 requirements adopted by rule for teachers.

8 (2) Partnership grant programs seeking funds to operate route two  
9 programs shall enroll currently employed classified staff with  
10 baccalaureate degrees seeking residency teacher certification in  
11 subject matter shortage areas and areas with shortages due to  
12 geographic location. Candidates enrolled in this route must complete  
13 a mentored internship complemented by flexibly scheduled training and  
14 coursework offered at a local site, such as a school or educational  
15 service district, or online or via video-conference over the K-20  
16 network, in collaboration with the partnership program's higher  
17 education partner. In addition, partnership grant programs shall  
18 uphold entry requirements for candidates that include:

19 (a) District or building validation of qualifications, including  
20 three years of successful student interaction and leadership as  
21 classified staff;

22 (b) A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution  
23 of higher education. The individual's college or university grade  
24 point average may be considered as a selection factor;

25 (c) Successful completion of the content test, once the state  
26 content test is available;

27 (d) Meeting the age, good moral character, and personal fitness  
28 requirements adopted by rule for teachers; and

29 (e) Successful passage of the statewide basic skills exam, when  
30 available.

31 (3) Partnership grant programs seeking funds to operate route three  
32 programs shall enroll individuals with baccalaureate degrees, who are  
33 not employed in the district at the time of application(~~(, or who hold~~  
34 ~~emergency substitute certificates)~~). When selecting candidates for  
35 certification through route three, districts shall give priority to  
36 individuals who are seeking residency teacher certification in subject  
37 matter shortage areas or shortages due to geographic locations. For  
38 route three only, the districts may include additional candidates in

1 nonshortage subject areas if the candidates are seeking endorsements  
2 with a secondary grade level designation as defined by rule by the  
3 state board of education. The districts shall disclose to candidates  
4 in nonshortage subject areas available information on the demand in  
5 those subject areas. Cohorts of candidates for this route shall attend  
6 an intensive summer teaching academy, followed by a full year employed  
7 by a district in a mentored internship, followed, if necessary, by a  
8 second summer teaching academy. In addition, partnership programs  
9 shall uphold entry requirements for candidates that include:

10 (a) Five years' experience in the work force;

11 (b) A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution  
12 of higher education. The individual's grade point average may be  
13 considered as a selection factor;

14 (c) Successful completion of the content test, once the state  
15 content test is available;

16 (d) External validation of qualifications, including demonstrated  
17 successful experience with students or children, such as references  
18 [reference] letters and letters of support from previous employers;

19 (e) Meeting the age, good moral character, and personal fitness  
20 requirements adopted by rule for teachers; and

21 (f) Successful passage of statewide basic skills exams, when  
22 available.

23 (4) Partnership grant programs seeking funds to operate route four  
24 programs shall enroll individuals with baccalaureate degrees, who are  
25 employed in the district at the time of application, or who hold  
26 conditional teaching certificates or emergency substitute certificates.  
27 Cohorts of candidates for this route shall attend an intensive summer  
28 teaching academy, followed by a full year employed by a district in a  
29 mentored internship. In addition, partnership programs shall uphold  
30 entry requirements for candidates that include:

31 (a) Five years' experience in the work force;

32 (b) A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution  
33 of higher education. The individual's grade point average may be  
34 considered as a selection factor;

35 (c) Successful completion of the content test, once the state  
36 content test is available;

37 (d) External validation of qualifications, including demonstrated

1 successful experience with students or children, such as reference  
2 letters and letters of support from previous employers;

3 (e) Meeting the age, good moral character, and personal fitness  
4 requirements adopted by rule for teachers; and

5 (f) Successful passage of statewide basic skills exams, when  
6 available.

7 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.660.901 and 2001 c 158 s 8 are each amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (1) The Washington state institute for public policy shall submit  
10 to the education and fiscal committees of the legislature, the  
11 governor, the state board of education, and the Washington professional  
12 educator standards board, an interim evaluation of partnership grant  
13 programs funded under this chapter by December 1, 2002, and a final  
14 evaluation by December 1, 2004. If specific funding for the purposes  
15 of this section, referencing this section and this act by bill or  
16 chapter number, is not provided by June 30, 2001, in the omnibus  
17 appropriations act, this section is null and void.

18 (2) This section expires June 30, 2005.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** RCW 28A.660.900 (Expiration of chapter) and  
20 2001 c 158 s 7 are each repealed.

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