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Action/Information

Legislative Committee of the Whole

Status of Legislation of Interest to the Commission

Executive Summary: Staff will present the status of legislative measures that have a position adopted by the Commission.

Recommended Action: Staff will provide an update on these bills and recommend a change in position on individual measures as appropriate.

Presenters: Linda G. Bond, Director, Office of Governmental Relations

LEGISLATIVE GUIDELINES OF THE CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

Adopted February 3, 1995

1. The Commission supports legislation that proposes to maintain or establish high standards for the preparation of public school teachers and other educators in California and opposes legislation that would lower standards for teachers and other educators.
2. The Commission supports legislation that proposes to maintain or establish high standards of fitness and conduct for public school educators in California and opposes legislation that would lower standards of fitness or conduct for public school educators.
3. The Commission supports legislation that reaffirms that teachers and other educators have appropriate qualifications and experience for their positions, as evidenced by holding appropriate credentials, and opposes legislation that would allow unprepared persons to serve in the public schools.
4. The Commission supports the maintenance of a thoughtful, cohesive approach to the preparation of credential candidates and opposes legislation that would tend to fragment or undermine the cohesiveness of the preparation of credential candidates.
5. The Commission supports legislation that strengthens or reaffirms initiatives and reforms that it previously has adopted and opposes legislation that would undermine initiatives or reforms that it previously has adopted.
6. The Commission supports alternatives to existing credential requirements that maintain high standards for the preparation of educators and opposes alternatives that do not provide sufficient assurances of quality.
7. The Commission opposes legislation that would give it significant additional duties and responsibilities if the legislation does not include an appropriate source of funding to support those additional duties and responsibilities.
8. The Commission supports legislation that affirms its role as an autonomous teacher standards board and opposes legislation that would erode the independence or authority of the Commission.

STATUS OF LEGISLATION OF INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION

ASSEMBLY BILLS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION

Bill Number – Author – Version Summary	Previous and Current Commission Position Version (Date Adopted)	Status
AB 54 – Oropeza – Amended 9/2/03 Would require the Commission to study cultural competency training and submit the report to the Legislature by May 1, 2005.	Seek Amendments – Introduced version – (December 2002) Approve – Amended version – (August 2003)	Chapter 817, Statutes of 2003.
AB 242 – Liu – Amended 6/9/04 Would enact educator preparation recommendations of the Joint Committee to Develop a Master Plan for Education.	Watch – Introduced version – (March 2003)	Enrolled. To Governor for consideration.
AB 422 – Chan – Amended 3/25/03 Would require the Commission to prepare a report on accrediting preparation programs and licensing of children’s center instructors and supervisors. Adopt regulations based on recommendations in the report.	Seek Amendments – Introduced version – (February 2003)	Died.
AB 608 – Daucher – Amended 7/15/03 Would require the CHP to immediately notify the Commission and school officials when a teacher is arrested for the specified controlled substance or sex offenses.	Approve – Amended version (June 2003)	Chapter 536, Statutes of 2003.

<p>AB 642 – Mullin – Amended 7/9/03 Would require the SBE beginning in 2010, to periodically review statewide academic content standards.</p>	<p>Approve-if-Amended – Amended version – (June 2003)</p> <p>Watch – Amended version – (August 2003)</p>	<p>Vetoed.</p>
<p>AB 791 – Pavley – Introduced 2/20/03 LAO would study if the Commission should be merged with the SDE.</p>	<p>Seek Amendments – Introduced version – (May 2003)</p>	<p>Died.</p>
<p>AB 907 – Pavley – Amended 4/21/03 Would require SBE and SPI to incorporate environmental education content in academic content standards for history/social science and science.</p>	<p>Seek Amendments – Amended version – (June 2003)</p> <p>Watch – Amended version (August 2003)</p>	<p>Died.</p>
<p>AB 1010 – Yee – Amended 8/25/04 Would establish a loan forgiveness program for teachers of blind and visually impaired pupils to be administered by the CSU.</p> <p>The CSU must collaborate with the Commission to monitor the candidates through their teaching obligation and the Commission must certify if the teacher is meeting their service obligation.</p>	<p>Seek Amendments – Introduced version – (February 2003)</p>	<p>Contents changed. No longer effects the Commission.</p>
<p>AB 1650 – Simitian – Amended 8/9/04 Would consolidate funding for specified teacher development programs into a block grant. CDE would also evaluate teacher quality and pupil improvement as a result of the block grant.</p>	<p>Seek Amendments – Amended version (May 2003)</p>	<p>Enrolled.</p> <p>To Governor for consideration.</p>

<p>AB 1914 Montanez – Amended 7/19/04 Among other provisions would require the Commission to participate in the development and ongoing implementation of teacher training in "correctional education."</p>	<p>Watch – Amended version (June 2004)</p>	<p>Enrolled. To Governor for consideration.</p>
<p>AB 2171 – Benoit – Amended 5/19/04 Would add PPS “school social work” to the current “school counseling” CBEST exemption for prelingually deaf credential candidates.</p>	<p>Approve – Introduced version (March 2004)</p>	<p>Chapter 106, Statutes of 2004.</p>
<p>AB 2909 – Salinas – Amended 8/9/04. Would require the State Department of Education to conduct a study of the current methods of providing special instruction and other services to infants and toddlers who are deaf or hard of hearing.</p>	<p>Approve – Amended version (June 2004)</p>	<p>Enrolled. To Governor for consideration.</p>

SENATE BILLS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION

Bill Number – Author – Version Summary	Previous and Current Commission Position Version (Date Adopted)	Status
SB 5 – (Karnette) – Amended 9/2/03 Would require the SBE to adopt content standards for teaching foreign languages in K-12 pursuant to recommendations developed by the SPI.	Approve-if-Amended – Amended version – (June 2003) Watch – Amended version – (August 2003)	Chapter 826, Statutes of 2003.
SB 81 – Alpert – Amended 9/3/03 On integrated programs – specifies units and more transferability between CSU and community colleges.	Watch – Introduced version (January 2003)	Chapter 896, Statutes of 2003.
SB 187 – Karnette – Amended 9/5/03 LA’s district intern bill. (No longer an Urgency Bill)	Seek Amendments – Introduced version (May 2003) Approve – Amended version (June 2003)	Chapter 461, Statutes of 2003.
SB 510 – Figueroa – Introduced 2/20/03 Legislative intent to establish a teacher exchange pilot program with El Salvador.	Watch – Introduced version (May 2003)	Died.
SB 1536 – McPherson – Amended 8/19/04 Clarifies and expands authorization for school counselors.	Watch – Amended version (May 2004)	Died.
SB 1621 – Machado – Amended 4/28/04 Would expand district intern Special Ed programs from the limit of Mild/Moderate.	Approve – Introduced version (March 2004)	Chapter 287, Statutes of 2004.
SB 1658 – Karnette – Amended 3/31/04 Would allow CTC to issue emergency permits for less-than-one-year periods.	Support – Amended version (Commission direction December 2003) (Commission update March 2004)	Chapter 55, Statutes of 2004.

Revised on September 9, 2004

Chaptered Bills

AB 2171 (Benoit) Prelingually Deaf CBEST Exemption Chapter 106, Statutes of 2004

Position Adopted by the Commission: Approve

AB 2171 adds Pupil Personnel Services: School Social Work to the list of credentials with the CBEST exemption option for prelingually deaf applicants. Just as the credentials issued for Education Specialist: Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Pupil Personnel Services: School Counseling, and Pupil Personnel Services: School Psychology, there is a job-related assessment in lieu of CBEST and the authorization is restricted to serving students in state special schools and students who are deaf or hard of hearing.

SB 1621 (Machado) Special Education District Intern Programs Chapter 287, Statutes of 2004

Position Adopted by the Commission: Approve

SB 1621 establishes a pilot program for district intern programs interested in offering teacher preparation in special education in any of the special education credentialing areas rather than being restricted to Mild/Moderate programs. Participants in the pilot program may include San Joaquin County Office of Education and up to five school districts or consortia. The Commission is currently required to prepare and submit by January 1, 2007 a report to the Legislature that summarizes “the regulations adopted by the Commission to expand statewide the issuance of district intern certificates that authorize classroom instruction to pupils with mild and moderate disabilities.” Similar information regarding the pilot program is now added to the Commission’s reporting requirement with an additional requirement that the Commission report on the effectiveness of individuals credentialed through this route. The special education teacher preparation program sunset date for district intern programs remains January 1, 2008, at which time the Legislature may consider the effectiveness of preparing special education teachers through district intern programs.

SB 1658 (Karnette) Emergency Permits Chapter 55, Statutes of 2004

Position Adopted by the Commission: Support

The federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requires all elementary and secondary teachers in core subject areas (English, reading, language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history and geography) to be “highly qualified” by July 1, 2006. California teachers serving on emergency permits do not meet the federal “highly qualified” definition. To align current California statutes with NCLB the Commission, with the

support of a representative group of stakeholders, adopted a plan to phase out emergency permits by July 1, 2006.

Education Code Section 44251(c) specified that emergency permits be issued for one year periods. Stakeholders testified before the Commission that some local districts may need the maximum time allowable under the federal law to phase out emergency permits. These district representatives requested the Commission to issue emergency permits until the federal deadline of July 1, 2006. In order to issue less-than-one-year documents (from August 2005 to June 2006) California needed a technical amendment to the Education Code.

SB 1658 provides for this technical amendment. Specifically, this bill deleted current statute [Education Code Section 44251(c)] and replaced it with language allowing the Commission to issue or reissue emergency permits for validity periods not to exceed one year, as determined by the Commission.

Enrolled Bills

AB 242 (Liu) Educator Preparation

Position Adopted by the Commission: Watch

AB 242 codifies changes adopted by the Commission (to date) regarding the issuance and renewal of emergency permits, as specified, to become effective July 1, 2006. It also declares the intent of the Legislature to eliminate waivers, with particular attention to schools ranked in the bottom 3 deciles of the API.

This bill requires school district governing boards to review and revise compensation policies for continuing professional education, as specified, and states legislative intent and proposes changes concerning higher education educator preparation.

AB 1650 (Simitian) Teacher Support and Development Act of 2005

Position Adopted by the Commission: Seek Amendments

AB 1650 consolidates 12 teacher preparation and development programs to create the Teacher Support and Development Act, a block grant. Among the programs slated for consolidation are the California Pre-internship Teaching Program, Alternative Certification (Intern) programs, California School Paraprofessional Teacher Training Program, California Math Initiative and California Peer Assistance and Review Program for Teachers. The bill's funding is based on the number of "teachers" (\$1,000 each) and paraprofessionals (\$155 each) in each district. The California Department of Education would be required to evaluate and assess the impact of the block grant on teacher quality and pupil improvement.

AB 1914 (Montanez) Correctional Education

Position Adopted by the Commission: Watch

AB 1914 (Montanez) was amended 7/19/04. It originally established a new Correctional Education Director to report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) and the Robert E. Burton Correctional Education Committee that, in part, would oversee a work group, including a representative of the Commission, for the purpose of developing and implementing a teacher training program in correctional education.

As amended, AB 1914 establishes the position of "Deputy Director of Correctional Education" who reports to the Director of Corrections. The SPI is no longer included in the bill in an oversight capacity. The Robert E. Burton Correctional Education Committee is maintained in the amended version of the measure and, among numerous responsibilities related to improving correctional education, remains charged to "develop and implement an ongoing teacher training program in correctional education in conjunction with CCTC."

AB 2909 (Salinas) Services: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Infants and Toddlers

Position Adopted by the Commission: Approve

AB 2909, originally required service providers for deaf and hard of hearing infants and toddlers to hold a special education credential authorizing service to students who are deaf or hard of hearing. It now requires the State Department of Education to conduct a study of the current methods of providing special instruction and other services to infants and toddlers who are deaf or hard of hearing. The study is to be funded, upon appropriation by the Legislature, by any available federal funds administered by the State Department of Education and shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

- The personnel utilized.
- The varying approaches utilized in providing services to individuals with single disabilities, as compared to the approaches used in providing services to individuals with multiple disabilities, including hearing impairments.
- The adequacy of the resources and personnel standards.
- The costs associated with ensuring that infants and toddlers who are deaf or hard of hearing received special instruction from credentialed teachers of the deaf.