
3B

Action

Legislative Committee

Analyses of Bills

AGENDA INSERT

Executive Summary: Staff will present analyses of educator preparation and licensing bills introduced by Legislators. The analyses will summarize current law, describe the bill's provisions, estimate its costs and recommend amendments, if applicable.

Recommended Action: Staff will recommend a position in each bill analysis submitted for the Commission's consideration.

Presenter: Mary Armstrong, Director; Office of Governmental Relations

Strategic Plan Goal: 2

Support policy development related to educator preparation, conduct and professional growth

- ◆ Inform key legislators and policy makers on issues and ideas relevant to the Commission's scope of action

June 2010

Bill Analysis

Assembly Bill 2685 (De La Torre)

Private schools: criminal background of employees and volunteers

Recommended Position: Support

Sponsor: Author

Bill Version: As amended May 10, 2010

Analysis of Bill Provisions

This bill would require the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (Commission) to make available to each private school a listing of all credential holders who have had final adverse action taken against their credential. The bill clarifies current law regarding the Commission's All Points Bulletin (APB).

Background

This bill was originally introduced to require the Commission to maintain a listing of private school employees who had been arrested for specified criminal activity. Staff worked with the author's office to point out problems with the bill's original language including certain constitutional concerns regarding the proposal. As a result, the bill was amended to provide only the provision regarding the APB. Currently Education Code section 44237 provides that the Commission shall send "on a monthly basis to each private school a list of all teachers who have had their state teaching credential revoked or suspended. The list shall be identical to the list compiled for the public schools in the state..." AB 2685 clarifies that this list contains the names of all credential holders who have had final adverse action taken against their credential.

Commission Activity

The Commission issues the All Points Bulletin to Chief State School Officers, County and District Superintendents of Schools, Deans of Education and California Private Schools. The APB lists current adverse actions taken by the Commission against applicants and credential holders following Commission final action. The listing also includes mandatory revocations and denials which are delegated to the Executive Director for final action. Effective June 1, 2005, because of increased mailing and printing costs associated with sending a "hard copy" via the U. S. Mail, the Commission notified recipients that the APB would be sent via electronic mail. Staff also began a project to develop a secure website access where the APB information could be downloaded and updated in real time. Currently the APB is sent via encrypted electronic mail and the secure website site access has been included in the upgrade requested in the Credential Interface Project (CWIP) and is expect to be functional by August 2011.

Fiscal Impact

This bill can be funded within the current Commission budget.

Organizational Positions**Support**

None on this version of the bill.

Opposition

None on this version of the bill.

Relevant Commission Legislative Policies

Policy 2: The Commission supports legislation which proposes to maintain or establish high standards of fitness and conduct for public school educators in California, and opposes legislation which would lower standards of fitness or conduct for public school educators.

Reason for Suggested Position

The bill clarifies existing practice of the Commission and is written in language that will provide for continued delivery improvements including the proposed secure website access.

Analyst: Mary Armstrong

Date of Analysis: May 25, 2010