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Action

Executive Committee

Educator Preparation Student Liaison

Executive Summary: This agenda item presents a possible option for adding an educator preparation student liaison to the Commission's membership through amendments to the Policy Manual of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

Recommended Action: That the Commission discuss the options for adding an educator preparation student liaison to the Commission and consider adopting conforming amendments to the CTC Policy Manual.

Presenter: Erin Sullivan, Assistant Consultant, Office of Governmental Relations

Strategic Plan Goal

III: Communication and Engagement

- ◆ Maintain and strengthen working relationships with the Commission's diverse stakeholder community.

Educator Preparation Student Liaison

Introduction

This agenda item presents an option for adding an educator preparation student liaison to the Commission by amending the Policy Manual of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC Policy Manual).

Background

During the Audience Presentation item at the September 2012 Commission meeting, a Student California Teachers Association (SCTA) representative requested that Commissioners consider adding a teacher preparation student member to the Commission citing the existing Commissioner vacancies as opportunities for such an appointment. Commissioners and staff explained the statutory nature of the Commission's membership and directed the student to the "Appointments" page on the Governor's website.

At the March 2013 Commission meeting the SCTA representative brought comments during the Legislative Committee meeting, presenting proposed statutory language that would add a teacher preparation student to the Commission as a "voting member with the full rights and duties of the other 15 members of the commission." As the language was presented during public comment and not part of a publicly-noticed item per the Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act which governs the Commission's public meetings, Commissioners were prohibited from taking action. While Commissioners were generally appreciative of the value of student representation, concerns were raised about the fact that most educator preparation programs are one year in length, and the appointments process is not set up to support annual reappointments in a manner that would keep pace with student matriculation.

Options for Commission Consideration

If the Commission would like to facilitate having student representation in its public deliberations, one option would be to amend the CTC Policy Manual to include a process for appointing an educator preparation student to serve as a non-voting liaison (liaison) to the Commission. The elements of the application process can be defined by the Executive Committee. These might include an announcement to all Commission approved educator preparation programs that provides guidelines and deadlines for students wishing to submit an application. A student's application packet should include verification of current enrollment and good standing in a Commission-approved educator preparation program. To assist in decision making, the committee may also wish to request a short essay (500 words) be included in the application packet in which the student explains his or her interest in being appointed as the Commission's student liaison. The Executive Committee or a smaller Ad Hoc Committee of Commissioners appointed by the Chair could be tasked with reviewing applications and selecting a liaison each year.

Fiscal Impact

Pursuant to §330 of the CTC Policy Manual, the liaison would be authorized to incur travel expenses. The annual expenses related to attendance of Commissioners at regular Commission meetings ranges from \$4,830 to \$6,580, depending on the number of meetings per year.¹

Six Meetings per Year

Hotel	\$ 810 (6 meetings @ \$135 per mtg)
Flight	\$2,700 (6 meetings @ \$450 per mtg)
Per Diem	\$1,320 (6 2-day meetings @ \$220 per mtg)
Total	\$4,830 per year

Potential Amendments to the Commission's Policy Manual

If the Commission would like to move forward with this option, changes would be necessary in the CTC Policy Manual. The following language provides an example for Commission consideration.

§201. EDUCATOR PREPARATION STUDENT LIAISON

The Executive Committee shall appoint a non-voting student liaison to advise the Commission concerning student issues. The educator preparation student liaison shall serve for 1-year beginning on October 1 of the year of appointment. The educator preparation student liaison shall not attend any closed session meeting of the Commission. The term of the liaison shall terminate if the person is not currently a student in good standing with an educator preparation program. The Commission shall pay for any necessary costs for travel, at state rates, for attendance at a Commission meeting.

Recommended Action

Staff recommends that the Commission discuss adding an educator preparation student liaison to the Commission, as described above, and consider adopting conforming amendments to the CTC Policy Manual.

¹ <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2013-06/2013-06-1A.pdf>