
7A

Information

Legislative Committee

Status of Legislation

Executive Summary: Staff will present the status of those legislative measures of interest to the Commission and address questions regarding any other legislation identified by Commissioners.

Recommended Action: For information only

Presenter: Sasha Horwitz, Government Relations & Public Affairs Manager,
Administrative Services Division

Strategic Plan Goal

III. Communication and Engagement

- e) Advise the Governor, Legislature, and other policy makers regarding issues affecting the quality, preparation, certification, and discipline of the education workforce.

Status of Executive Orders and Emergency Legislation

This section provides an update on the status of Executive Orders and Emergency Legislation in response to the COVID-19 situation.

On March 21, Governor Newsom signed [Executive Order \(N-35-20\)](#), which stated that “given the impacts of COVID-19 on governmental entities certain statutory deadlines would be impractical or impossible to adhere to.”

Specifically related to the Commission, the Order extended by a period of 60 days, deadlines related to the:

- Presentation of disciplinary cases to the Committee of Credentials for initial review (Education Code 44242.7(a) and California Code of Regulations title 5, section 80306);
- Formal review of disciplinary cases and determination of adverse action by the Committee of Credentials (Education Code 44244(b)(1));
- Processing of military spouse or partner applications (Education Code 44343.5); and
- Processing of educator applications (Education Code 44350).

Both houses of the legislature recessed early and are currently adjourned. All legislative business, including committee hearings, floor sessions, and adopting amendments is suspended until May 4. Before recessing, the Senate passed rules allowing the body to hold hearings and vote remotely. The Assembly did not make a comparable rule change.

With K-12 and postsecondary classroom instruction presumably suspended throughout the 2019-20 school year, and examination centers closed, current teacher candidates do not have access to preparatory instruction, student teaching and examinations necessary to complete a preliminary credential. Staff is exploring how current challenges can be addressed through additional Executive Orders and/or Emergency Legislation.

Status of Legislation

This agenda item provides an update on Commission sponsored legislation as well as bills that the Commission is monitoring or has taken a position on.

Note: There are currently no measures on which the Commission has adopted a position.

2019-20 Sponsored Legislation

[AB 2485 \(Kalra\) - Teacher Credentialing: Subject Matter Competence](#)

Introduced: February 19, 2020

Last Amended: n/a

Status: Referred to the Assembly Education Committee

Summary: This bill would give teaching credential candidates additional flexibility for demonstrating that they meet the statutory subject matter requirements (SMRs) for the credential they are seeking. In addition to taking and passing a California Subject Examinations for Teachers (CEST) and completion of a Subject Matter Program, candidates would be permitted to use undergraduate or graduate coursework, completed as part of a major at a regionally-accredited institution of higher education, to demonstrate competency aligned with existing SMRs. They would also be permitted to mix-and-match competencies from available options.

[AB 2541 \(Medina\) - Teacher Preparation Programs: Regionally Accredited Institutions](#)

Introduced: February 19, 2020

Last Amended: n/a

Status: Double-referred to the Assembly Education and Assembly Higher Education Committees

Summary: This bill would clarify that the Commission has statutory authority to establish regulations recognizing that a degree conferred by an institution of higher education (IHE) in preaccreditation status is valid once the IHE and program of study successfully complete the accreditation process.

2019-20 Legislation of Interest

The legislature is currently in the midst of the second year of the two-year 2019-20 legislative session. Bills were required to be introduced by February 19. Due to the COVID-19 situation, both houses of the legislature recessed early and are currently adjourned. All legislative activity, including committee hearings, floor session, and adopting amendments are currently suspended until May 4.

Examinations

[SB 614 \(Rubio\) - Teacher Credentialing: Reading Instruction](#)

Introduced: February 22, 2019

Last Amended: July 1, 2019

Status: Referred to the Assembly Education Committee

Summary: This bill would make changes to the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA) statute.

[AB 1982 \(Cunningham\) - Teacher Preparation Programs: Regionally Accredited Institutions](#)

Introduced: January 23, 2020

Last Amended: n/a

Status: Referred to the Assembly Education Committee

Summary: This bill would create a new option for teacher candidates to demonstrate the Basic Skills Requirement (BSR) by permitting the Commission to accept letter grades of B or higher in credit-bearing higher education coursework in basic reading, writing, and mathematics skills in the English language in place of the CBEST. The measure will further permit candidates to meet the BSR through a combination of different options.

Preparation Programs

[AB 2175 \(Gipson\) - School nurses: Credentialing](#)

Introduced: February 11, 2020

Last Amended: n/a

Status: Referred to the Assembly Education Committee

Summary: This bill would clarify that the Commission may approve a program operated by an LEA for a services credential with a specialization in health for a school nurse. The program would be consistent with existing school nurse credential standards.

[AB 2684 \(Rubio\) - School Employee Credentialing: Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy Services: Workgroup](#)

Introduced: February 20, 2020

Last Amended: n/a

Status: Referred to the Assembly Education Committee

Summary: This bill would direct the Commission to convene a workgroup to consider a services credential in Occupational Therapy/Physical Therapy.

Certification

[AB 2708 \(Obernolte\) - Teacher Credentialing: Military Spouses: Basic Skills Proficiency](#)

Introduced: February 20, 2020

Last Amended: March 16, 2020

Status: Referred to the Assembly Education Committee

Summary: This bill would extend, from one year to two years, the period of time a military spouse who is an out-of-state credential holder has to demonstrate the basic skills requirement. These spouses must have relocated to California under orders received by their partners from a branch of the United States Armed Forces.

General

[AB 2309 \(Berman\) - Teacher Credentialing: Supplementary Authorization: Computer Science: Grant Program](#)

Introduced: February 14, 2020

Last Amended: March 6, 2020

Status: Referred to the Assembly Education Committee

Summary: This bill would require the Commission, upon the appropriation of funds, to develop and implement the Computer Science Preparing Educators Grant Program. This program would award competitive grants to postsecondary institutions for the development of preservice credential programs and for the development of curriculum for teachers seeking a supplementary authorization in Computer Science.

[AB 3002 \(Robert Rivas\) - Teachers: Teacher Shortage and Diversity Programs: Evaluation](#)

Introduced: February 21, 2020

Last Amended: n/a

Status: Referred to the Assembly Education Committee

Summary: This bill would require the Commission to conduct an annual evaluation of all investments in addressing teacher shortages and teacher diversity, including the Teacher Residency Grant Program, the Local Solutions Grant Program, the Classified School Employee Teacher Credentialing Program, and the Golden State Teacher Grant Program, through 2030.