
6A

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 legislation in response to the COVID-19 situation.

On May 29, Governor Newsom signed [Executive Order \(N-66-20\)](#), which stated that “as a result of COVID-19, individuals seeking to obtain teacher credentials have been unable to meet certain credentialing requirements, and it is necessary to provide flexibility to minimize the impacts to these individuals and the State’s supply of qualified teachers, while maintaining high teacher credentialing standards.”

The Order provides the following new flexibilities for candidates affected by COVID-19 to meet assessment requirements:

- Postpones Assessments Required for a Preliminary Credential – RICA, TPA, and CalAPA.
 - Suspends TPA for Preliminary Multiple Subject and Single Subject Candidates; requires passage for the Clear Credential.
 - Suspends RICA for Preliminary Multiple Subject and Education Specialist Candidates; requires passage for the Clear Credential.
 - Suspends CalAPA for Preliminary Administrative Services Candidates; requires passage for the Clear Credential.
- Suspends Requirement to Complete CBEST Prior to Enrollment in a Preparation Program; requires passage for the Preliminary Credential.
- Waives Subject Matter Requirement to teach as an Intern; requires passage for the Preliminary Credential.

The Legislature reconvened May 4, and has held hearings on an abbreviated schedule while practicing social distancing. The Senate and Assembly Education Committees each held only one hearing, and prioritized essential bills that address the impacts of COVID-19. Both of the Commission’s sponsored bills were included in these hearings and passed on consent.

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: May 12, 2020

Status: Passed the Assembly Appropriations 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.

Additional Notes: Amended to sunset on December 31, 2023.

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

Introduced: February 19, 2020

Last Amended: May 03, 2020

Status: Passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee

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 introduced but not passed out of their house of origin are dead. Each house has until June 19 to hear and pass bills introduced in that house. Upon adjournment of session on June 19, the Legislature will begin its summer recess. The legislature will reconvene on July 13.

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: May 11, 2020

Status: Passed the Assembly Appropriations 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.

Additional Notes: Amended to sunset on December 31, 2023.

Preparation Programs

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

Introduced: February 11, 2020

Last Amended: n/a

Status: Hearing postponed by 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.

Additional Notes: Due to COVID-19, no additional Education Committee hearings are scheduled.

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

Introduced: February 20, 2020

Last Amended: n/a

Status: Hearing postponed by Assembly Education committee.

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

Additional Notes: Due to COVID-19, no additional Education Committee hearings are scheduled.

Certification

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

Introduced: February 20, 2020

Last Amended: March 16, 2020

Status: Hearing postponed by 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.

Additional Notes: Due to COVID-19, no additional Education Committee hearings are scheduled.

General

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

Introduced: February 14, 2020

Last Amended: March 9, 2020

Status: Hearing postponed by 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.

Additional Notes: Due to COVID-19, no additional Education Committee hearings are scheduled.

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

Introduced: February 21, 2020

Last Amended: n/a

Status: Hearing postponed by 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.

Additional Notes: Due to COVID-19, no additional Education Committee hearings are scheduled.