

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

1020 O STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

86-8701

August 12, 1986

TO: All Individuals and Groups Interested in the Activities of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing

FROM: *Richard K. Mastain*
Richard K. Mastain, Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 2371 (Statewide Study of the Misassignment of Credentialed Personnel; Availability of Limited Assignment Authorization; and required workshops on the proper assignment of teachers)

The purpose of this coded correspondence is to make you aware of the provisions of an important piece of legislation dealing with the assignment/misassignment of credentialed personnel. While not yet signed into law, it seems likely that the Governor will sign it and that it will become law shortly. The Commission will keep you advised as to the progress of this legislation.

Senate Bill 2371, authored by the Honorable Diane Watson, would, if signed by the Governor, provide the following:

- A. Require the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to complete a major statewide study of the misassignment of credentialed personnel; and
- B. Permit the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to issue a limited assignment authorization to a permanent employee allowing the employee to be assigned, with his or her consent, to teach any single subject class in which he or she has met certain minimum requirements; and
- C. Require all school district governing boards to notify the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, by August 31, 1986, of the name of the certificated employee of the district who will be responsible for the implementation of workshops with district administrators regarding the proper assignment of teachers within their credential authorizations.

The details of this legislation are described below.

STATEWIDE STUDY OF THE MISASSIGNMENT OF CREDENTIALLED PERSONNEL

If signed into law:

- a) The Commission would be required to complete a statewide study of the misassignment of credentialed personnel;
- b) The study would incorporate a sample of the school assignments that are reflective of typical assignments;
- c) The Commission would be required to report its findings in a report to the Legislature on or before January 1, 1987;
- d) The report would contain all pertinent data regarding the existence of the misassignment of credentialed personnel and would contain recommendations for its solution;
- e) If the report indicated that a solution is not possible without additional legislation, the Commission would develop proposed legislation to provide school districts with the means to properly assign credentialed personnel to all positions in their educational program;

f) The report would also recommend actions to be taken in the event that credentialed personnel are assigned to positions for which they are not properly credentialed; and

g) During the period of the study, a school district and all school district personnel are to be exempted from any statutory sanction for the misassignment of credentialed personnel, so long as the district has made a good-faith effort to properly assign credentialed personnel.

Staff of the Commission has already begun work on the study, and has completed on-site monitoring of assignment/misassignment in 12 school districts. This on-site monitoring includes the review of the assignment of 12,000 teachers in 60,000 class assignments. Commission staff has also done paper monitoring of the assignments of another 10,000 teachers in approximately 50,000 class assignments. The results and analysis of the assignments of these 22,000 teachers in 110,000 class assignments will be a part of the report to be submitted to the Legislature.

LIMITED ASSIGNMENT AUTHORIZATION

If signed into law:

a) The Commission would be authorized to issue a limited assignment authorization, for a fee of twelve dollars (\$12), to a permanent employee allowing the employee to be assigned, with his or her consent, to teach in any single subject class in which he or she has accomplished the following:

1. Six semester units of course work in the subject, or
2. A passing score on the appropriate National Teacher Examination used for credentialing in the subject by the Commission, or
3. A major in a related subject field, or
4. Ninety hours of staff development in the subject;

b) The governing board of the school district which seeks to employ credentialed personnel under a limited assignment authorization would, by resolution, provide specific authorization for any such assignment.

Any such assignment would remain in effect until June 30 of that school year.

The resolution would include a statement of need for the holder of a limited assignment authorization which documents the efforts of the district to employ a fully credentialed person for that position.

The resolution would need to accompany the application for the limited assignment authorization.

WORKSHOPS

If signed into law:

Each school district governing board would be required to notify the Commission, by August 31, 1986, of the name of the certificated employee of the district who will be responsible for the implementation of workshops with district administrators regarding the proper assignment of teachers within their credential authorizations. **NOTE: THIS PROVISION WOULD APPLY TO ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS, WHETHER THE DISTRICT UTILIZES LIMITED ASSIGNMENT AUTHORIZATIONS OR NOT.**

These provisions (all of the above) would remain in effect only until June 30, 1988, and as of that date would be repealed, unless a later enacted statute, which is enacted before June 30, 1988, deletes or extends that date.

This legislation contains an urgency clause and would, therefore, become effective upon signing by the Governor. Again, the Commission will keep you informed as to the status of this legislation.