

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

The state board of teaching, among other things, issues new and continuing licenses to K-12 teachers in Minnesota, advocates for teacher preparation and induction programs, adopts rules governing licensure requirements, addresses violations of teacher licenses, seeks partnerships for educational improvement and may grant rule waivers. Currently, the DCFL oversees similar matters affecting school administrators. This bill proposes to establish a board of educational administration charged with licensure responsibilities for school administrators.

Section

Article 1: Transfer of Duties

1 Definitions.

Subd. 1. Scope. Defines the terms used in this act.

Subd. 2. Board. Defines "board" to mean the board of educational administration.

Subd. 3. Community education director. Defines "community education director" to mean a person employed as a community education director who performs administrative and supervisory duties related to community education.

Subd. 4. Principal. Defines "principal" to mean an elementary, secondary or K-12 principal or assistant principal who devotes more than 50 percent of the person's time to administrative or supervisory duties.

Subd. 5. School administrators. Defines "school administrators" to mean superintendents, principals, special education directors, community education directors and vocational administrators.

Subd. 6. Special education director. Defines "special education director" to mean a person employed as a special education director or assistant director who devotes time to administrative or supervisory duties for special instruction and services for children with disabilities.

- Subd. 7. Superintendent.** Defines "superintendent" to mean a school administrator employed as a superintendent or assistant superintendent.
- Subd. 8. Vocational administrator.** Defines "vocational administrator" to mean a person who devotes time to administrative or supervisory duties for vocational education.
- 2 **Board of educational administration.**
- Subd. 1. Appointment of members; eligibility.** Establishes a seven-member governor-appointed board of educational administration consisting of an elementary school principal, a secondary school principal, a school superintendent, a classroom teacher, a community education director or a special education director, a member of the public, and one higher education representative, who must be a faculty member preparing school administrators.
- Subd. 2. Terms; compensation; removal.** Causes membership terms, payment of expenses, removal of members and filling of membership vacancies to be governed by the statutory section governing licensing boards except that members' terms expire July 31. Requires the terms of the initial board members to be determined by lot: one member each has a term expire 8/1/02 and 8/1/03, respectively; two members have terms expire 8/1/04; and three members have terms expire 8/1/05. Precludes members from receiving daily payment for serving on the board. Prohibits the employer of a board member from reducing the board member's compensation for the board member's absence from employment while engaged in board business. Allows a member to be appointed to the board for two terms.
- Subd. 3. Vacant position.** Declares vacant the position of a member who leaves Minnesota or whose employment status changes.
- Subd. 4. Administration.** Establishes provisions governing staff, administrative services, office space, the review and processing of complaints, the setting of fees, the selection and duties of the board's executive secretary, FY and reporting requirements and other board operations.
- 3 **Meetings.**
- Subd. 1. Meetings.** Causes the board to meet regularly at times and places the board determines. Directs the board to elect officers. Causes meetings to be called by the chair or at the written request of three board members.
- Subd. 2. Executive secretary.** Permits the board to hire an executive secretary in the unclassified service and other staff or to arrange to share a director and staff with the board of teaching.
- 4 **Duties of board of educational administration.**
- Subd. 1. Licensing.** Directs the board to adopt licensure rules and license school administrators. Other than rules transferred under section 5, the board may not adopt or amend rules until the rules are approved by law. Requires the licensure rules to include persons who successfully complete alternative preparation programs. Allows the board to enter into agreements with the board of teaching regarding multiple licensure matters.
- Subd. 2. Preparation programs.** Directs the board to review and approve preparation programs and alternative preparation programs for school administrators.
- Subd. 3. Rules for continuing education requirements.** Directs the board to adopt rules for continuing education requirements that encourage school administrator to continuously improve and acquire new and relevant skills.
- Subd. 4. Code of ethics.** Directs the board to adopt by rule a code of ethics covering standards of professional practice and to advise school administrators in interpreting the code of ethics.
- Subd. 5. Commissioner's representative to comment on proposed rule.** Requires a representative of the commissioner to comment on the cost and educational implications of a

proposed rule before the board adopts a rule submitted to public hearing.

Subd. 6. Register of persons licensed. Requires the board's executive director to keep a record of board proceedings and a register of licensed school administrators, which must show licensees' name, address, license number and license renewal. Requires the board to annually compile and transmit to the board a list of licensed school administrators, which must be available for inspection during office business hours.

Subd. 7. Commissioner's assistance; board money. Directs the commissioner to provide the board with material and assistance needed to transact board business. Directs the board to pay all money it receives into the state treasury. Pays for the board's administrative expenses through board appropriations.

5 **Transfer of powers and duties.** Transfers the powers, duties and responsibilities for supervisory personnel from the commissioner of the department of children, families and learning to the board of educational administration.

6 **Appropriation.** Appropriates an unspecified sum in fiscal year 2002 from the general fund to the board of educational administration for the purposes of sections 1 to 4.

Article 2: Conforming Changes

1 **Licensure rules.** Indicates that the commissioner does not make rules relating to licensure of school administrators.

2 **Teacher rule variances; commissioner.** Allows the commissioner to grant a variance to rules governing licensure of school administrators only upon agreement of the board of educational administration.

3 **Authority to license.** Authorizes the board of educational administration to license supervisory personnel other than athletic coaches.

4 **Expiration and renewal.** (a) Changes references from the commissioner of the department of children, families and learning to the board of educational administration in the provision governing the renewing of the licenses of supervisory personnel. Directs the board of teaching to establish requirements for renewing the licenses of athletic coaches.

5 **Mandatory reporting.** Requires school boards to report to the board of educational administration when an administrator is discharged or resigns after a charge is filed. Requires the board of educational administration to consider taking action to suspend or revoke an administrator's license after receiving a stipulation from the administrator or a recommendation from an administrative law judge that disciplinary action be taken.

6 **Teachers' and administrators' licenses; fees.** Requires applicants seeking the issuance, renewal or extension of a school administrator's license to include with the application to the board of educational administration a processing fee in the same amount as that set by the board of teaching.

7 **Non-health related licensing board.** Includes the board of educational administration in the definition of non-health related licensing board.

8 **Services provided.** Directs the commissioner of the department of children, families, and learning to provide suitable office and other facilities and administrative support services to the board of educational administration.

9 **Officers; staff.** Places employees of the board of educational administration in the unclassified civil service.

10 **Requirements.** Exempts the board of educational administration from limiting continuing professional education or training to an average of 50 clock hours per year.

11 **Revisor instruction.** Directs the revisor to substitute "board of educational administration" for

the commissioner of the department of children, families and learning" in specified statutory provisions.