
5A

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 Education Budget Trailer Bills

This section provides an update on the status of the second Education Budget Trailer bill, which codified the COVID-19 flexibilities originally issued by Governor Newsom in Executive Order N-66-20 and extends the expiration dates by one additional year.

On September 18, Governor Newsom signed [SB 820 Education Finance \(Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review\)](#), which extended the following assessment requirement flexibilities for candidates affected by COVID-19. As part of a budget trailer bill, these extensions went into effect immediately upon signing:

- 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 EO N-66-20 provisions only apply to candidates who were unable to complete the requirement during the 2019-20 school year due to COVID-19. The SB 820 provisions add the 2020-21 school year.*

*** The EO N-66-20 provisions only apply to candidates who were unable to complete the requirement between March 19, 2020 and Aug 31, 2020, due to COVID-19. The SB 820 provisions change the eligibility window to between March 19, 2020 and August 31, 2021.*

Status of Legislation

This agenda item provides an update on Commission sponsored legislation as well as bills that the Commission monitored or took a position on during the 2020 session.

2020 Sponsored Legislation

The Commission sponsored two bills in the 2020 legislative year. The Senate Education Committee only granted hearings to legislation that was directly related to COVID-19. As a result, the bills were not heard by the Senate Education Committee and did not come before the Senate for a vote. Staff intends to revisit these proposals at the December Commission meeting.

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

Introduced: February 19, 2020

Last Amended: July 7, 2020

Status: Held in Senate 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. These provisions sunset on December 31, 2023.

Additional Notes: This bill is now dead for the 2019-20 legislative session.

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

Introduced: February 19, 2020

Last Amended: May 4, 2020

Status: Held in Senate Education Committee

Summary: This bill would provide the Commission with the authority to recognize 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. The measure also clarifies that the Commission has the authority to create regulations for this purpose.

Additional Notes: This bill is now dead for the 2019-20 legislative session.

2020 Supported Legislation

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

Introduced: January 23, 2020

Last Amended: May 11, 2020

Status: Held in the Senate 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. These provisions sunset on December 31, 2023.

Additional Notes: This bill is now dead for the 2019-20 legislative session.

2019-20 Legislation of Interest

The legislature completed the two-year 2019-20 legislative session on August 31. Bills that did not pass out of both houses are considered dead. The legislature will reconvene on December 7, 2020 for the new two-year session. Bills that did not pass in a previous session may be reintroduced at that time.

Examinations

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

Introduced: February 22, 2019

Last Amended: August 10, 2020

Status: Held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee

Summary:

SB 614 makes changes to the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA) statute. Through July 1, 2024, candidates for Multiple Subject (MS) and Education Specialist (ES) credentials, would have the option to demonstrate competence through either the RICA Written Examination or the RICA Video Performance Assessment, as is the case now. Candidates who take and do not pass either assessment may meet the requirement by successfully completing coursework that addresses the content of the subtests of the assessment that the candidate did not successfully complete and that meets the Commission's standards, or a combination of either assessment and the complementary coursework. Currently, the assessments are not composed of subtests.

After July 1, 2024, the existing RICA assessment would be repealed. In its place, a Commission-approved Teaching Performance Assessment (TPA) would be required to assess MS and ES candidates for instruction in literacy, including, but not limited to, foundational reading skills, in a manner aligned to the Commission's current teaching performance expectations and to the current English language arts/English language development curriculum framework adopted by the State Board of Education.

Additional Notes: This bill is now dead for the 2019-20 legislative session.

Preparation Programs

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

Introduced: February 11, 2020

Last Amended: n/a

Status: In Assembly Education Committee. Failed deadline.

Summary: This bill would clarify that the Commission may approve a program operated by a local education agency 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: This bill is now dead for the 2019-20 legislative session.

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

Introduced: February 20, 2020

Last Amended: n/a

Status: In Assembly Education Committee. Failed deadline.

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

Additional Notes: This bill is now dead for the 2019-20 legislative session.

Certification

AB 2708 (Obernolte) - Teacher Credentialing: Military Spouses: Basic Skills Proficiency

Introduced: February 20, 2020

Last Amended: March 16, 2020

Status: In Assembly Education Committee. Failed deadline.

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: This bill is now dead for the 2019-20 legislative session.

General

AB 2309 (Berman) - Teacher Credentialing: Supplementary Authorization: Computer Science: Grant Program

Introduced: February 14, 2020

Last Amended: March 9, 2020

Status: In Assembly Education Committee. Failed deadline.

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: This bill is now dead for the 2019-20 legislative session.

AB 3002 (Robert Rivas) - Teachers: Teacher Shortage and Diversity Programs: Evaluation

Introduced: February 21, 2020

Last Amended: n/a

Status: In Assembly Education Committee. Failed deadline.

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: This bill is now dead for the 2019-20 legislative session.