

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 3 - 2 - 0

Yeas: Metsger, Westlund, Walker

Nays: Kruse, Morse

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Dana Richardson, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/22, 4/3, 4/19

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Increases charter school teaching and administrative licensing requirements from 50 percent to 65 percent. Applies requirement to new charter schools and to existing charter schools when they renew their charter. Applies Teacher Standards and Practices Commission standards of fitness and power to discipline or suspend to registered charter school teachers. Applies additional teacher registration standards prospectively. Declares an emergency; effective July 1, 2007.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- History of provisions of the measure
- Control of teacher credentials in charter schools
- Application of licensure requirements to teachers and administrators
- Determination of "good moral character" standard
- Improved outcomes if higher licensure requirements are adopted
- Importance of flexibility for charter schools

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Replaces the measure.

**BACKGROUND:** In 1999, the Legislature passed legislation allowing the formation of charter schools. That law required charter schools to have at least half of their teaching and administrative staff licensed with the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission. Teachers who were not licensed had to be registered with the Commission. Registration included a description of the background of the applicant relevant to the teaching position (i.e. education or other experience) and documentation for purposes of conducting a criminal background check.

This bill would increase the overall licensure requirement for teachers and administrators at charter schools from 50 percent to 65 percent. It would also give the Commission authority to suspend or revoke the registration of or otherwise discipline a registered charter school teacher just as it can currently for licensed teachers.

4/27/2007 4:27:00 PM

*This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.*