FULL COMMITTEE PONY

Teacher Standards and Practices Commission Fee Related Revenue Trends and Information System Replacement Report

The Education Subcommittee recommends the Joint Committee on Ways and Means acknowledge receipt of a report on fee related revenue trends and replacement of the information system for the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission.

Since 2009-2011, the fee revenue from teachers and other licensees has fallen – from \$5.12 million in 2009-11 to \$4.65 million for 2011-13 due to a drop in the number of licensees. The falling revenues resulted in layoffs, forced vacancies, and other spending reductions made by the Commission. Revenues have improved during the beginning of this biennium, and vacant positions are starting to be filled. Backlogs still exist at this time, but should improve as more staff resources are made available. The Commission may return to the 2015 Legislature with a proposed new fee structure to provide stable funding in the future.

The Commission also reported on replacing their "homegrown" information system which presently requires a series of manual "workarounds" to operate. Partially because of the Commission's fiscal situation, progress on the replacement has been slow. TSPC staff is presently working closely with the Department of Administration on finding an alternative as well as identifying the overall cost and financing alternatives. The Commission is expected to report to the Legislature prior to taking any further significant steps relating to the system's replacement.

The Education Subcommittee recommends approval of the request.