



Memo

To: HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
From: Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director
Date: April 7, 2015
Re: HB 3339

Summary of the Bill

- Abolishes the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission. Moves all powers and duties from the Commission to the State Board of Education.
- Creates a new Division within the Oregon Department of Education called: *Teacher Standards and Practices Division* with **limited** advisory role:
 - The division consists of 17 members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate;
 - Division scope is over procedures related to educator complaints ONLY and leaves final decision making regarding educator discipline against the license with the State Board of Education.

Effects of the Bill

- The State Board of Education would be responsible for establishing the professional licensure standards for: *(The State Board of Education is made up of public members. Currently-employed teachers and administrators are statutorily prohibited from serving as State Board of Education members.)*
 - Teachers
 - Administrators
 - School Counselors
 - School Psychologists
 - School Social Workers
- The State Board of Education would be responsible for setting standards and determining the quality of educator preparation programs (for both public and private universities and colleges).
- In Oregon, professions such as nurses, social workers, lawyers, builders, and doctors are responsible for the standards and discipline of their professions through independent state licensing boards. HB 3339 would render licensed educators the only profession in the state without a representative state licensure board. (Current Commission has four licensed administrators; 8 licensed teachers, two higher education educator preparation faculty members and one school board member.)
- The elimination of the 50-year old educator professional licensure board. Oregon was one of the first states to recognize teaching as a profession.

