



Memo

To: SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
From: Victoria Chamberlain
Date: May 12, 2015
Re: HB 2412A with -6 Amendments

HB 2412A was introduced by the agency and primarily involves housekeeping amendments. During session, the agency worked with the representatives of the Dyslexia community to add provisions to HB 2412A to require educator preparation programs to provide training on dyslexia to teacher candidates in certain fields.

HB 2412A:

- Updates outdated terms; (Section 1 and throughout)
- Clearly separates the definition of administrator from teacher; (Section 1)
- Removes obsolete language; (throughout)
- Updates the Commission's statutes related to approving licensure programs; (Section 8)
- Clarifies the Commission's authority to deny registrations to charter school educators who have been engaged in criminal activity and prior misconduct; (Section 6)
- Eliminates Commission's authority to fine districts for failure to hire currently licensed educators; but retains authority to sanction administrators and educators who intentionally hire unlicensed staff or who intentionally work unlicensed. (Section 10) ***The Commission has not fined a district since 1989.***
- Clarifies some disciplinary procedures and allows redistribution of investigative casework review from the Executive Director to other designated appropriate staff. (Section 12)
- Repeals outdated statutes.
- Adds provisions related to addressing dyslexia identification and improved teaching methods in certain teacher preparation programs where dyslexia is most likely to be first identified. Additionally, the amendments require the Commission to report to

the legislature by October 2016 on the implementation of the dyslexia standards in above-mentioned teacher preparation programs. These preparation programs include:

- Elementary education;
- Special education;
- Early childhood education; and
- Reading Intervention.

The -6 Amendments: These amendments make minor non-fiscal changes to HB 2412A.

Specifically they:

- **(Section 10):** Remove language from ORS 342.173 that was missed earlier: HB 2412 proposed amendments that removed the Commission’s authority to fine districts (see red bullet above). Language was overlooked that would have required the Commission to annually review contracts entered into by school districts when briefly hiring post-secondary faculty for short-term assignments. The -6 amendments remove the annual review requirement.
- **(Section 11):** HB 2412A contained new language ORS 342.175(1)(a) that was inadvertently redundant with existing language in statute: ORS 342.175(3).
- **(Section 11):** Allows the Commission to take Reprimand action against an educator preparation program candidate if they engage in misconduct prior to completing their educator preparation program. Current law allows suspension and revocation of a candidate’s right to apply for a license, but not a public reprimand.
- **(Section 22):** Aligns the language regarding the private higher education representative appointee with the language regarding the public higher education representative appointee.
- **(Sections 55 and 56):** Adds authority to Legislative Council to “harmonize and clarify” the terms *teacher education institution* with *educator preparation provider*; and *teacher education program* with *educator preparation program*.