

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/15/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, And Bill Be Referred To Ways
And Means.

Meeting Dates: 04/01, 04/15

Vote:

Yeas: 9 - Barreto, Doherty, Frederick, Hack, McLain, Piluso, Reardon, Sprenger, Wilson

Prepared By: Richard Donovan, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Changes name of Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) to Professional Educator Standards Board. Updates terms for teacher education programs and institutions. Streamlines licensure structure for teachers and administrators. Increases maximum amount allowed for fees for issuance of license. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of TSPC, including drop in revenue and resulting 30% reduction in staff in past three years
- Current low level of service, long wait times for teachers applying for license
- Fee increases as enabling return to proper level of service
- Actions taken to address existing licensure process
- “Teacher” as anachronistic term; “educator” more accurate, given broad range of licenses issued by TSPC

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Reduces proposed fee cap.

BACKGROUND:

The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) was established in 1965, and is the state licensing agency for educators. The TSPC has three main areas of responsibility: approval of teacher preparation programs offered by Oregon colleges and universities; licensure of teachers, administrators and other personnel employed in Oregon schools; and management of disciplinary actions relevant to educators conduct, including violations of the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance.

House Bill 2411-A clarifies existing statutes to reflect the organizational restructuring and renaming of the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission to the Professional Educator Standards Board. The bill also increases the amount of fees charged for educator licenses and subsequent license renewals, as well as modifies the names associated with the various levels of licensure.