

SB 216 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Prepared By: Tamara Dykeman, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 1/30, 2/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Permits a school district to employ an unlicensed educator with a pending application for 90-days only if the educator has not been employed with a pending application for the same license during the previous year.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2017, the legislature passed SB 205, permitting teachers to teach for 90 days without a license if they submit a license application and complete all required background checks. The purpose of this legislation was to allow school districts to employ teachers while their license applications are being processed. In 2018, the legislature passed SB 1520 that expanded this option to all employees that require educator licensure.

Under current law, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission may not limit the number of times an educator is employed under the 90-day licensure exemption. TSPC reports that a few educators have applied two or three times for the same license in order to extend the 90-day unlicensed employment period. The bill would limit educators to using the 90-day provision only once per year for each license type.