

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 279 - B

82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2023 Regular Session

Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Date: May 4, 2023

Measure Description:

Enacts the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact. Establishes the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact Commission. Clarifies that the term “active military member” refers to any person with full-time duty status in the Armed Forces of the United States. Specifies that the State of Oregon is not obligated to make any payments under the compact to the commission or to any other person, entity, or public body, unless the State first receives some form of expenditure authority to make such a payment. Takes effect on the date on which the compact is enacted into law by at least 10 member states.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Teacher Standards and Practices Commission, School Districts

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure are anticipated to be minimal - See explanatory analysis.

Analysis:

Senate Bill 279 B-engrossed enacts the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact into law by entering the State of Oregon into the compact with all other jurisdictions that have legally joined it. The compact requires member states to grant licenses to teachers with unencumbered eligible licenses from other member states without having to meet additional requirements, except for a criminal background check. However, a receiving state, which is any state where teachers apply for licensure under the compact, may require out-of-state teachers to meet any additional requirements of the receiving state upon renewal of their licenses. The compact requires member states, upon request, to provide information to other member states about any teachers who have been investigated and disciplined in other member state(s). The measure clarifies that the term “active military member” refers to any person with full-time duty status in the Armed Forces of the United States.

The measure establishes the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact Commission, which is a joint interstate governmental agency comprising the states that have enacted the compact. The measure specifies the commission’s membership, duties, and rulemaking authority. The measure establishes oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement duties of state governments in member states. The measure specifies that the State of Oregon is not obligated to make any payments to the commission or to any other person, entity, or public body, unless the State first receives some form of expenditure authority to make such a payment.

Member states may withdraw from the compact by enacting a statute repealing their participation in the compact. However, any withdrawal shall not take effect until six months after enactment of the repealing statute, and withdrawal would not relieve a member state of its continuing requirement to comply with the investigative and adverse action reporting requirements of the compact prior to the effective date of the withdrawal. The commission may initiate legal action in federal court by seeking injunctive relief against a member state that is in default of the compact. The compact takes effect on the date on which it is enacted into law by a tenth member state.

As of May 2023, four state legislatures (Colorado, Kansas, Kentucky, and Utah) have enacted the compact, according to the Council of State Governments. The compact is also currently under consideration by 15 other

state legislatures: Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, and Washington. The compact would enable any teacher with an unencumbered, eligible license to move from one state to another state and continue to teach if the teacher holds a bachelor's degree, has completed the requirements of a state-approved education preparation program, and undergoes a criminal background check in the receiving state. Any additional licensure requirements in the receiving state would be completed by that teacher when the teacher applies for licensure renewal in the receiving state.

Teacher Standards and Practice Commission

The measure is anticipated to have a minimal fiscal impact on the Teacher Standards and Practice Commission (TSPC). The measure may encourage more licensees to move to Oregon to continue teaching, which would generate more fee revenue for TSPC. With more licensees, TSPC staff would spend less time evaluating out-of-state teacher applications, but more time gathering information that licensees are currently required to submit, including proof of degrees and credentials.

School Districts

The measure is anticipated to have no fiscal impact on school districts.