

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**April 24, 2009**

**TO:** Honorable Rob Eissler, Chair, House Committee on Public Education

**FROM:** John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB3421** by Eissler (relating to educator preparation programs and educator certification, performance, and recruitment. ), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

**Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds** for HB3421, Committee Report 1st House, Substituted: a negative impact of (\$1,039,962) through the biennium ending August 31, 2011.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

**General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2010	(\$618,481)
2011	(\$421,481)
2012	(\$346,481)
2013	(\$346,481)
2014	(\$246,481)

**All Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

Fiscal Year	Probable Savings/ (Cost) from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1	Probable Savings/ (Cost) from <i>Certif &amp; Assessment</i> <i>Fees</i> 751	Probable Revenue Gain/(Loss) from <i>Certif &amp; Assessment</i> <i>Fees</i> 751	Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2009
2010	(\$618,481)	(\$98,844)	\$98,844	5.0
2011	(\$421,481)	(\$90,844)	\$90,844	5.0
2012	(\$346,481)	(\$839,688)	\$839,688	6.0
2013	(\$346,481)	(\$311,688)	\$311,688	6.0
2014	(\$246,481)	(\$311,688)	\$311,688	6.0

**Fiscal Analysis**

The bill would require the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to submit a report to the legislature by December 1 of each even-numbered year including detailed staffing information for each campus in the state related to teacher assignments relative to certification, teacher turnover, certification status, and teacher experience.

The bill would authorize the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) to adopt fees to cover costs associated with approving or renewing approval of an educator preparation program and adding certificates or field certificates to the scope of an educator preparation program's approval.

The bill would impose minimum academic standards that must be met before a student could be admitted to an educator preparation program.

The bill would amend the Accountability System for Educator Preparation Programs (ASEP) to require that student achievement based on the statutorily established measure of annual improvement of graduates from a program in their first three years of teaching and compliance with board requirements regarding the provision of on-going support provided by field supervisors to beginning teachers be considered by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) in setting standards governing approval and accountability for educator preparation programs.

The bill would permit SBEC to establish minimum standards for approval or renewal of approval for individual certification fields authorized to be offered by an educator preparation program.

The bill would establish accreditation statuses and sanctions that may be imposed by SBEC on educator preparation programs. The bill would permit TEA to revoke accreditation of a program rated accredited-probation for a period of at least one year and would require TEA to revoke accreditation of a program rated accredited-probation for three consecutive years.

The bill would require SBEC to provide information on its web site regarding each educator preparation program including results of certification exams of program graduates, data regarding student achievement of program graduates, the average academic credentials of admitted students, effectiveness of graduates in the instruction of students with disabilities and students of limited English proficiency, program components related to the use of technology in teaching, the perseverance of beginning teachers graduating from the program, results of exit surveys of program graduates, results of surveys completed by school principals employing program graduates, and employment opportunities for program graduates.

The bill would direct TEA to develop a statewide media campaign to recruit qualified persons to enter the teaching profession with particular focus on the areas of science and mathematics.

## **Methodology**

TEA estimates 2.0 additional FTEs would be necessary to meet the requirements of the biennial report on educators at a cost of \$152,982 in FY2010 and \$136,982 in each subsequent year, inclusive of salary, benefits, and other expenses.

In order to implement new educator preparation program standards related to growth in academic performance of students taught in a teacher's first three years of teaching, new data establishing a teacher-student link for assessment results would be collected. TEA has received a federal grant to develop this link, which is scheduled to be in place in FY2013. TEA estimates the cost of software updates associated with the collection of data necessary to implement the standard at \$650,000 in FY2012 and \$130,000 annually in each subsequent year. Conducting the analysis to implement the standard would require 1.0 additional FTE at a cost of \$98,844 in FY2012 and \$90,844 in each subsequent year, inclusive of salary, benefits, and other operating expenses. It is assumed that these costs would be offset by increased fee revenue authorized by the bill.

The provisions of the bill related to sanctions for educator preparation programs that fail to meet accountability standards would require 1.0 additional attorney FTE at TEA at a cost of \$98,844 in FY2010 and \$90,844 in each subsequent year, inclusive of salary, benefits, and other operating expenses. It is assumed that this cost would be offset by increased fee revenue authorized by the bill.

Programming costs for updates to the SBEC web site to provide the information regarding individual educator preparation programs required by the bill are estimated at \$250,000 in FY2010 and \$50,000 in each subsequent year in maintenance costs. TEA estimates 1.0 FTE would be necessary to compile and analyze results of exit surveys for inclusion on the web site at a cost of \$76,491 in FY2010 and \$68,491 in each subsequent year, inclusive of salary, benefits, and other expenses. TEA estimates programming costs of \$50,000 in FY2010 and \$10,000 annually in each subsequent year to provide for a web-based application for school principal surveys.

For purposes of this estimate, it is assumed that the required teacher recruitment media campaign would cost \$75,000 in FY2011. The bill requires SBEC to solicit gifts, grants, and donations to fund the campaign. To the extent that gifts, grants, or donations are received, state costs would be offset.

### **Technology**

TEA estimates the cost of software updates associated with the collection of data necessary to implement new educator preparation program standards at \$650,000 in FY2012 and \$130,000 annually in each subsequent year.

Programming costs for updates to the SBEC web site to provide the information regarding individual educator preparation programs required by the bill are estimated at \$250,000 in FY2010 and \$50,000 in each subsequent year in maintenance costs.

TEA estimates programming costs of \$50,000 in FY2010 and \$10,000 annually in each subsequent year to provide for a web-based application for school principal surveys.

### **Local Government Impact**

School districts would be required to comply with educator appraisal requirements in the bill.

**Source Agencies:** 701 Central Education Agency, 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board

**LBB Staff:** JOB, JSp, JGM, JSc