

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill Number: SB 581

52nd Legislature, 1st Session, 2015

Tracking Number: .200292.1

Short Title: Nat'l Board Certification to Teacher T & E

Sponsor(s): Senator Carlos R. Cisneros

Analyst: Ian Kleats

Date: February 27, 2015

Bill Summary:

Effective July 1, 2015, SB 581 amends the *Public School Finance Act* to incorporate certain teachers certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) within the instructional staff training and experience (T&E) index table.

Fiscal Impact:

SB 581 does not contain an appropriation.

Fiscal Issues:

Allowing a larger factor for teachers with a bachelor's degree and NBPTS certification in the calculation of the T&E index could increase some school districts' and charter schools' T&E indices, which would result in additional program units for those school districts and charter schools. However, the Public Education Department (PED) bill analysis did not include data on the number of teachers who would satisfy the new criterion proposed by SB 581. As such, no data are available to estimate the potential impact on new program units and funding generated through the State Equalization Guarantee (SEG).

As SB 581 does not contain an appropriation, the addition of new units to the SEG, if not fully funded, may dilute the unit value, potentially impairing the ability of school districts and charter schools to meet their local obligations.

Technical Issues:

Because SB 581 does not amend Paragraph 4 of Subsection A (page 2, lines 15-19) to require that NBPTS certification used in the calculation of the T&E index be reflected on the salary schedule of the school district, it does not appear that school districts or charter schools would be required to increase the salary of instructional staff receiving those credentials. The sponsor may wish to consider an amendment to this paragraph that includes NBPTS certification in addition to academic degree and additional credit hours.

Substantive Issues:

PED notes that, because instructional staff with both a bachelor's degree and NBPTS certification would be included in the T&E factor currently assigned to educators who have a

master's or bachelor's plus 45 credit hours, SB 581 would align compensation for districts with other teachers that are eligible to obtain a Level 3 teaching license.

PED further highlights that, currently, districts with teachers that attained a Level 3 license with NBPTS certification instead of a master's degree and nine to 15 years of experience count only for a 1.05 T&E factor; SB 581 would allow those teachers to generate a T&E factor of 1.15, which is more likely in line with their current compensation.

Background:

With respect to NBPTS certification in New Mexico, NBPTS data from school year 2013-2014 indicate that, while there are 110,447 individuals NBPTS-certified nationwide:

- the total number of NBPTS certified individuals in New Mexico has steadily increased since school year 2009-2010 in the following way:
 - 580 in school year 2009-2010;
 - 675 in school year 2010-2011;
 - 767 in school year 2011-2012;
 - 868 in school year 2012-2013; and
 - 970 in school year 2013-2014; and

- the five New Mexico school districts with the highest numbers of NBPTS-certified individuals are:
 - Albuquerque Public Schools with 497;
 - Las Cruces Public Schools with 46;
 - Santa Fe Public Schools with 45;
 - Gallup-McKinley County Schools with 43; and
 - Rio Rancho Public Schools with 39.

Committee Referrals:

SEC/SFC

Related Bills:

HB 400 *Program Units for Certain School Employees*