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BILL ANALYSIS

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House Bill 4716 (Substitute H-2 as passed by the House)
Sponsor: Representative Mike Nofs
House Committee: Education
Senate Committee: Education

Date Completed: 11-10-04

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Revised School Code to require the Department of Education to establish an advisory committee that would review teacher certification rules and mentorship practices, and make recommendations to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The advisory committee would have to consist of a representative of the Department, two principals of schools located in Michigan, five certificated teachers, three local superintendents, two school board members, and one representative of approved teacher education institutions, appointed as follows:

- The Senate Majority Leader would appoint one principal, two teachers, one superintendent, and one school board member.
- The Speaker of the House of Representatives would appoint one principal, one teacher, two superintendents, and one school board member.
- The Governor would appoint two teachers and the representative of approved teacher education institutions.

The Code requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to determine the requirements for and issue all licenses and certificates for teachers, subject to examination requirements set forth in the Code. Under the bill, within one year after its effective date, the proposed advisory committee would have to review the teacher certification rules promulgated under the Code, and recommend revisions to the rules to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Within one year after receiving the recommendations, the Superintendent would have to revise the rules accordingly.

The Code also requires teachers to be assigned to mentors during their first three years of classroom teaching. Under the bill, within one year after its effective date, the advisory committee would have to review the mentorship practices taking place under these provisions, and make recommendations to the Superintendent on possible legislation to improve the mentorship practices in this State. The recommendations could include recommendations for the promulgation of rules to improve mentorship practices.

MCL 380.1526 & 380.1531

Legislative Analyst: Suzanne Lowe

FISCAL IMPACT

The Department of Education likely would face increased costs if this legislation were enacted. The costs would stem from additional administrative requirements for the Department to appoint the committee and revise the rules as laid out in the bill, along with the provision of any administrative support for, or oversight of, the committee.

The bill would have no fiscal impact on local government.

Fiscal Analyst: Kathryn Summers-Coty

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.