

- SUBJECT:** Expanding the State Board for Educator Certification
- COMMITTEE:** Public Education — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 11 ayes — Aycock, Allen, Bohac, Deshotel, Dutton, Farney, Galindo, González, Huberty, K. King, VanDeaver
- 0 nays
- WITNESSES:** For — Diann Huber; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Rae Queen, ACT San Antonio; Kate Kuhlmann, Association of Texas Professional Educators; Mike Meroney, Coalition for Effective Educator Preparation; Melva V. Cardenas, Texas Association of School Personnel Administrators; Holly Eaton, Texas Classroom Teachers Association)
- Against — None
- On — Sandra West, Science Teachers of TX; Ted Melina Raab, Texas American Federation of Teachers; Zenobia Joseph; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Tim Miller, Texas Education Agency)
- BACKGROUND:** Education Code, sec. 21.033(a) establishes the composition of the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC). The 14 members include three nonvoting members and 11 voting members. Sec. 21.049 allows SBEC to provide for educator certification programs as an alternative to traditional educator preparation programs.
- As more new teachers enter Texas classrooms through alternative certification programs, observers have noted that it is important that these programs be of high quality and that the addition to SBEC of an individual with alternative certification experience could provide valuable input to the board's decision-making process.
- DIGEST:** CSHB 2205 would increase SBEC from 14 to 15 members. The new non-voting member would be appointed by the governor, would have had experience working for an alternative educator preparation program, and

would not be affiliated with the same institution of higher education as another nonvoting member.

The board would add the following to consumer information to be made available about educator preparation programs:

- for each semester, the average ratio of field supervisors to candidates completing student teaching, clinical teaching, or an internship in an educator preparation program; and
- the percentage of teachers employed under a standard teaching certificate within one year of completing the program.

The bill would add a requirement for SBEC to provide a board procedure for changing the accreditation status of a program that did not meet certain accreditation standards or that violated a board or agency regulation.

This bill would take effect September 1, 2015.