

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB553
Version:	FULLPCS1
Request Number:	13551
Author:	Rep. Sterling
Date:	4/21/2025
Impact:	Please see previous summary of this measure

Research Analysis

The proposed committee substitute for SB 553 prohibits the State Department of Education from issuing a teaching license to anyone who has been convicted of failing to report suspected child abuse or neglect. Any certified teacher convicted of the crime will have their teaching license revoked. Further, a career teacher may be dismissed, and not reemployed for failure to report abuse. School employees are required to annually sign an attestation acknowledging their responsibility to report suspected child abuse or neglect.

Any time a teacher or substitute teacher leaves a school district and seeks a position at another district, the measure requires the original district to state in a letter whether the teacher was alleged to have had inappropriate behavior with a student.

Lastly, the measure clarifies the circumstances under which the State Board of Education can revoke or suspend a teacher's license. Unless there's an emergency as defined in the Administrative Procedure's Act, the SBE may not revoke a teacher's license without going through due process. The SBE is also required to notify a teacher and the school superintendent of any teacher investigation.

Prepared By: Emily Byrne

Fiscal Analysis

The measure is currently under review and impact information will be completed.

Prepared By: House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.