Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

☑ Original ☐ Updated	Corrected	Supplemental
LRB Number 21-6004/1	Introduction Number	AB-0975
Description Substitute teacher permits issued by the Departr	ment of Public Instruction	
Fiscal Effect		
Appropriations Reve Decrease Existing Decre Appropriations Reve Create New Appropriations Local: No Local Government Costs Indeterminate 1. Increase Costs 3. Incre Permissive Mandatory Perm 2. Decrease Costs 4. Decre	absorb within Absorb within	Government Village Cities Others WTCS Districts
Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20	Appropriations
GPR FED PRO PRS	SEG SEGS	
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DPI 2/16/2022

LRB Number 21-6004/1	Introduction Number	AB-0975	Estimate Type	Original		
Description						
Substitute teacher permits issued by the Department of Public Instruction						

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill requires the state superintendent of public instruction to grant a substitute teacher permit to an individual who satisfies all of the following requirements:

- 1. The individual is eligible for a permit based on a successful background check.
- 2. The individual is at least 21 years of age.
- 3. The individual is enrolled in a teacher preparatory program approved by the state superintendent.
- 4. If the teacher preparatory program in which the individual is enrolled awards a bachelor's degree, the individual has successfully completed the minimum number of course credits required for the individual to have achieved junior level status.
- 5. The individual has completed at least 15 hours of classroom observation.

The bill specifies that, if the individual is eligible for a substitute teacher permit under the bill, the state superintendent may not require the individual to complete substitute teacher training as a condition for receiving the permit.

Under current law, an individual is eligible for a substitute teacher permit if the individual 1) is eligible for a permit based on a successful background check; 2) has an associate degree; and 3) has successfully completed substitute teacher training. The bill retains this pathway for obtaining a substitute teacher permit.

State: The bill expands the types of individuals who are eligible for a substitute teaching permit under s. 118.19 (7m), Stats. Under current law, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) is required to grant a substitute teaching permit to individuals who have earned an associate degree or higher and has successfully completed substitute teacher training and passed a background check. Substitute teaching permits are codified in the DPI Administrative Code under s. PI 34.032, which govern the issuance of Tier I, short-term substitute teaching licenses. These licenses authorize an individual to substitute teach in any subject and in any grade level for up to 45 consecutive days in any teaching assignment. The DPI Administrative Code does not limit the number of teaching assignments that the individual may teach.

Under the bill, individuals that are 21 years old, enrolled in an approved teacher preparation program, achieved junior status, and completed 15 hours of classroom observation shall become eligible for a substitute teaching permit. Further, individuals that meet this eligibility criteria are not required to complete substitute teacher training, which is currently required for individuals who have an associate degree and have passed a background check and would continue to be required under the bill.

The DPI estimates the cost to the state associated with implementing this bill would be minimal. The DPI would be required to update the online licensing system for the short-term substitute teaching license to recognize the provisions of the bill, which is estimated to cost \$2,000 in staff time to create the new application and would roughly take a month to complete. Additional time may be necessary for technical support, depending on the types of technical issues that may arise in implementing the provisions in the online licensing system.

The DPI anticipates that the cost to implement the provisions of the bill would be absorbed within existing department resources. The cost associated with processing license applications and background checks is indeterminate but would also be absorbed within existing department resources. Therefore, there is no fiscal impact to the state as a result of the bill.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications