



501846

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/28/2017	.	
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The Committee on Transportation (Broxson) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 341 and 342
insert:

Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 1012.56, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.56 Educator certification requirements.—

(1) APPLICATION.—Each person seeking certification pursuant to this chapter shall submit a completed application containing the applicant's social security number to the Department of



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11 Education and remit the fee required pursuant to s. 1012.59 and
12 rules of the State Board of Education.

13 (a) Beginning in the 2017-2018 fiscal year and each year
14 thereafter, the application fee and the fees for the following
15 examinations are eliminated for an applicant for the initial
16 Florida Professional Educator's Certificate: the General
17 Knowledge Test, for a first-time registration; and the
18 Professional Education Test, for a first-time registration. This
19 paragraph is subject to funding appropriated in the General
20 Appropriations Act.

21 (b) Beginning in the 2017-2018 fiscal year and each year
22 thereafter, one subject area examination fee is waived for an
23 applicant for the initial Florida Professional Educator's
24 Certificate. This paragraph is subject to funding appropriated
25 in the General Appropriations Act.

26 (c) Beginning in the 2017-2018 fiscal year and each year
27 thereafter, the fee for renewing a Florida Professional
28 Educator's Certificate is eliminated for a certified teacher
29 employed at a Florida public school. This paragraph is subject
30 to funding appropriated in the General Appropriations Act.

31 (d) Pursuant to the federal Personal Responsibility and
32 Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, each party is
33 required to provide his or her social security number in
34 accordance with this section. Disclosure of social security
35 numbers obtained through this requirement is limited to the
36 purpose of administration of the Title IV-D program of the
37 Social Security Act for child support enforcement. Pursuant to
38 s. 120.60, the department shall issue within 90 calendar days
39 after the stamped receipted date of the completed application:



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40 1.~~(a)~~ If the applicant meets the requirements, a
41 professional certificate covering the classification, level, and
42 area for which the applicant is deemed qualified and a document
43 explaining the requirements for renewal of the professional
44 certificate;

45 2.~~(b)~~ If the applicant meets the requirements and if
46 requested by an employing school district or an employing
47 private school with a professional education competence
48 demonstration program pursuant to paragraphs (6) (f) and (8) (b),
49 a temporary certificate covering the classification, level, and
50 area for which the applicant is deemed qualified and an official
51 statement of status of eligibility; or

52 3.~~(e)~~ If an applicant does not meet the requirements for
53 either certificate, an official statement of status of
54 eligibility.

55
56 The statement of status of eligibility must advise the applicant
57 of any qualifications that must be completed to qualify for
58 certification. Each statement of status of eligibility is valid
59 for 3 years after its date of issuance, except as provided in
60 paragraph (2) (d).

61 Section 15. Section 1012.59, Florida Statutes, is amended
62 to read:

63 1012.59 Certification fees.—

64 (1) The State Board of Education, by rule, shall establish
65 separate fees for applications, examinations, certification,
66 certification renewal, late renewal, recordmaking, and
67 recordkeeping, and may establish procedures for scheduling and
68 administering an examination upon an applicant's request. Each



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69 fee shall be based on department estimates of the revenue
70 required to implement the provisions of law with respect to
71 certification of school personnel. The application fee shall be
72 nonrefundable. Each examination fee shall be sufficient to cover
73 the actual cost of developing and administering the examination.

74 (a) Beginning in the 2017-2018 fiscal year and each year
75 thereafter, the application fee and the fees for the following
76 examinations are eliminated for an applicant for the initial
77 Florida Professional Educator's Certificate: the General
78 Knowledge Test, for a first-time registration; and the
79 Professional Education Test, for a first-time registration. This
80 paragraph is subject to funding appropriated in the General
81 Appropriations Act.

82 (b) Beginning in the 2017-2018 fiscal year and each year
83 thereafter, one subject area examination fee is waived for an
84 applicant for the initial Florida Professional Educator's
85 Certificate. This paragraph is subject to funding appropriated
86 in the General Appropriations Act.

87 (c) Beginning in the 2017-2018 fiscal year and each year
88 thereafter, the fee for renewing a Florida Professional
89 Educator's Certificate is eliminated for a certified teacher
90 employed at a Florida public school. This paragraph is subject
91 to funding appropriated in the General Appropriations Act.

92 (2) The proceeds from the collection of certification fees,
93 fines, penalties, and costs levied pursuant to this chapter
94 shall be remitted by the Department of Education to the Chief
95 Financial Officer for deposit into a separate fund to be known
96 as the "Educational Certification and Service Trust Fund" and
97 disbursed for the payment of expenses incurred by the



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98 Educational Practices Commission and in the printing of forms
99 and bulletins and the issuing of certificates, upon vouchers
100 approved by the department.

101 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

102 And the title is amended as follows:

103 Between lines 24 and 25

104 insert:

105 amending ss. 1012.56 and 1012.59, F.S.; eliminating
106 the application fee and the fees for certain
107 examinations for an initial Florida Professional
108 Educator's Certificate beginning in a specified fiscal
109 year; waiving the fee for one subject area examination
110 for an initial Florida Professional Educator's
111 Certificate beginning in a specified fiscal year;
112 eliminating the fee for renewing a Florida
113 Professional Educator's Certificate for a certified
114 teacher employed at a Florida public school beginning
115 in a specified fiscal year; providing specified
116 provisions are subject to certain funding;