

Slide 1

Changes in Teacher Licensure

2017-19 WISCONSIN BIENNIAL BUDGET PROVISIONS – ACT 59

Slide 2

ELIMINATE EXPIRATION DATES FOR TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATOR LICENSES

- ▶ Governor: Delete \$753,200 and 10.0 positions in 2017-18 and \$1,004,100 in 2018-19 from base level funding of \$3,698,400

Getting rid of license renewal takes away a source of revenue from the DPI and eliminates the need for staff to monitor and implement teaching license renewal.

Slide 3

ELIMINATE EXPIRATION DATES FOR TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATOR LICENSES

- ▶ Joint Finance: Modify the funding and position authority in the bill by 5.0 PR positions and \$359,700 PR in 2017-18 and \$610,600 PR in 2018-19

The joint finance modified the budget a little – keeping \$\$ for making the DPI responsible for background checks, but eliminating, in agreement with the Governor, that professional development and license renewal is unnecessary.

Slide 4

ELIMINATE EXPIRATION DATES FOR
TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATOR LICENSES

- ▶ ...Specify that a provisional three-year license would be granted for **new** educators, administrators, and pupil services professionals.

After the effective date of the budget (September 21, 2017) anyone applying for a license would receive a 3-year provisional license.

Slide 5

ELIMINATE EXPIRATION DATES FOR
TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATOR LICENSES

- ▶ Allow DPI to issue a lifetime license if the individual successfully completes six semesters of teaching, administrator, or pupil services experience.

Provisional licenses turn magically into life licenses after 6 semesters of “successful” experience.

Slide 6

ELIMINATE EXPIRATION DATES FOR
TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATOR LICENSES

- ▶ ...the school board of each school district in which an individual served ...must certify to the Department that the semesters completed by that individual in that school district were completed successfully.

WHO decides if a teacher has successfully completed 6 semesters? The District does.

Slide 7

ELIMINATE EXPIRATION DATES FOR
TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATOR LICENSES

- ▶ [The Governor intends that the educator effectiveness system be used by school districts to ensure excellence and accountability in the state's teaching and education leadership workforce.] *introduction to Governor's budget*

While not specified in the budget, it seems clear that educator effectiveness, however it is implemented, will be the measure of "successful."

Slide 8

ELIMINATE EXPIRATION DATES FOR
TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATOR LICENSES

- ▶ ...an individual who does not complete six semesters of teaching, administrating, or pupil services experience within the three-year term of a provisional license could apply to renew the provisional license.

This is helpful for teachers who are not employed steadily over 6-semesters.

Slide 9

ELIMINATE EXPIRATION DATES FOR
TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATOR LICENSES

- ▶ ... there would be no limit to the number of times an individual could renew a provisional license.

This is helpful for those receiving a provisional license in an area in which they do not currently teach (e.g., Reading Specialist) or a license they do not currently use (e.g., an administrator license).

ELIMINATE EXPIRATION DATES FOR TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATOR LICENSES

- ▶ ...any individual holding a **professional** or **master** teaching license, administrator license, or pupil services license that is valid and current on the effective date of the bill would be a lifetime license with no expiration date.

Magic. Stop doing PDPs. From the DPI website 9/26/17: Anyone that holds a current professional or master license, will automatically have their license converted to a lifetime license. This will be done by DPI removing the expiration date from these licenses. There will be no fee charged to the license holder for the conversion to a lifetime license. DPI is currently working on the programming in their system to do this.

ELIMINATE EXPIRATION DATES FOR TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATOR LICENSES

- ▶ An individual who holds a valid and current **initial** teaching, administrator, or pupil services license on the effective date of the bill...would receive a provisional three-year license.

Teacher A has an initial license due to expire in June 2018 and has been working on a PDP to become a professional educator. Does this budget provision mean they have to teach another 6 semesters to get a life license? No grandfathering of previous semesters' work? News from DPI website as of 10/4/17: NOTE: We are working to get clarification on whether work experience completed prior to the 2017-2018 school year can be used for the lifetime license requirement. We will post that answer on our blog as soon as we know.

Slide
12

FACULTY TEACHING IN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS

- ▶ Allow a faculty member of an institution of higher education to teach in a public high school, including a charter school operating only high school grades, without a license or permit from DPI.

Slide
13

FACULTY TEACHING IN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS

- ▶ Define[d] as: (a) an institution or college...within the UW System; (b) a technical college within the WI Tech. College System; or (c) any private, nonprofit postsecondary institution that is a member of the WI Assoc. of Independent Colleges & Universities.

Slide
14

FACULTY TEACHING IN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS

- ▶ ...eligible...faculty member[s] must possess a bachelor's degree and be in good standing with the institution of higher education at which he or she is a member of the faculty...

FACULTY TEACHING IN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS

- ▶ ...the faculty member would be required to complete a background check and that the results of the background check must show that the faculty member is eligible for a teaching license under current law.

ALTERNATIVE LICENSURE

- ▶ Require DPI to grant an initial teaching license to an individual who meets the following requirements: (a) possesses a bachelor's degree;

ALTERNATIVE LICENSURE

- ▶ (b) has successfully completed an alternative teacher certification program operated by an alternative preparation program provider that is a [501 (c)(3)] organization...that operates in at least five states and has [operated] for at least ten years.

ALTERNATIVE LICENSURE

- ▶ ...and that requires the candidate to pass a subject area exam and the pedagogy exam known as the Professional Teaching Knowledge exam to receive a certificate under the program.

ALTERNATIVE LICENSURE

- ▶ and (c) successfully completes a background check.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

- ▶ Require the State Superintendent to grant a substitute teacher permit to an individual who meets the following requirements: (a) successfully completes substitute teacher training;

Slide
21

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

- ▶ (b) has an associate's degree; and
- ▶ (c) successfully completes a background check.

Slide
22

TEACHER LICENSURE RULEMAKING PROCESS

- ▶ Require DPI to promulgate rules to revise Chapter 34 of the state administrative code, which contains provisions related to teacher licensure.

All state agencies are required to write the rules that administer new laws.

Slide
23

TEACHER LICENSURE RULEMAKING PROCESS

“At Least ALL”

- ▶ ...simplify the teacher licensure process, to the extent practicable, by doing *at least all* of the following:

TEACHER LICENSURE RULEMAKING PROCESS

- ▶ (a) simplify the grade levels licensees are authorized to teach;
- ▶ (b) create broad field subject licenses;
- ▶ (c) allow school districts to increase the number of teachers by offering internships and residency opportunities

TEACHER LICENSURE RULEMAKING PROCESS

- ▶ (d) create a permit that authorizes an individual who is enrolled in a teacher preparatory program to teach in public schools as part of an internship, residency program, or other equivalent training program;

TEACHER LICENSURE RULEMAKING PROCESS

- ▶ (e) simplify licensure reciprocity for individuals who hold a license in another state;
- ▶ (f) expand pathways for individuals who hold a license issued by DPI to obtain additional licenses to fill positions in geographic areas or subject areas that are in need of educational personnel

Slide
27

TEACHER LICENSURE RULEMAKING PROCESS

- ▶ Specify that the rules must *not* decrease the quality standards for obtaining a license to teach from the DPI. Require DPI to submit the rules in proposed form to the Legislative Council staff, as required under current law rulemaking procedures, no later than **January 1, 2018**.

Slide
28

Questions?

Call the WEAC Region 3 office at 800-472-5582

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