
DIGEST

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HB 472 Reengrossed

2023 Regular Session

Mincey

Abstract: Provides for state entry into the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact, which provides for licensure of teachers who move between member states.

Proposed law provides for the state's entry into the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact. The purpose of the compact is to facilitate the mobility of teachers across the member states by providing a pathway to licensure for teachers who move from one state to another.

Some major elements of the compact are:

- (1) The compact provides only for initial licensure of a teacher who moves from and to a member state.
- (2) Requires the receiving state to issue an equivalent license to a teacher who has an unencumbered license from another member state. An unencumbered license is one that is not restricted, probationary, provisional, substitute, or temporary. If the teacher is an active military member or eligible military spouse, this requirement applies even if the license from the other state is encumbered.
- (3) Requires member states to provide information regarding the investigation and discipline of teachers in other member states upon request. Requires maintenance of the confidentiality of such information.
- (4) Creates the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact commission comprised of the primary administrative officer of each state's licensing authority or his designee. Authorizes the commission to adopt bylaws and administrative rules.
- (5) Provides for creation of an executive committee of the commission.
- (6) Authorizes the commission to levy an annual assessment on member states or impose fees on other parties.
- (7) Provides that the legislatures of a majority of member states may nullify a rule adopted by the commission.
- (8) Provides for effectiveness of the compact upon adoption by 10 states.

Proposed law provides relative to criminal background checks of teachers moving to La. under the compact. Requires that the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information (BCII) provide to the Dept. of Education arrest and conviction information on any applicant for licensure for whom the department has submitted fingerprints and other identifying information. Requires that the BCII submit the fingerprints to the FBI for a national criminal history records check. Provides that the costs associated with the background check are charged to the department. Prohibits disclosure of information from the FBI to the compact commission or to any other member state.

(Adds R.S. 17:581 and 582)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Add provisions relative to criminal history background checks of teachers applying under the compact to teach in La.