

SB 1066 -- ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

This bill requires the State Board of Education to issue an initial four-year teaching certificate to an individual who completes certification with the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence, except for special education, early childhood, and elementary education certification. These teachers must have 60 contact hours in specified activities to apply and, to be eligible for a career continuous certificate, must complete 30 contact hours of professional development within four years, complete two years in an approved mentoring program, have a successful performance-based teacher evaluation, and participate in a beginning teacher assistance program.

The bill also makes the Commissioner of Education's expenditures on areas of critical need subject to the approval of the Joint Committee on Education. This provision of the bill contains a nonseverability provision.

The State Auditor is authorized to audit a school district in the same way that a state agency is audited.

The provisions of the bill regarding teacher certificates will expire August 28, 2014.