

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 1, 1997  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 15, 1997

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1997–98 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 858**

---

---

**Introduced by Assembly Member Davis**

February 27, 1997

---

---

An act to add Sections 44202.5 and 44496.5 to the Education Code, relating to education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 858, as amended, Davis. Education: Certification program of National Board for Professional Teaching Standards: California Mentor Teacher Program.

(1) Existing law establishes the California Mentor Teacher Program in furtherance of expressed legislative intent to encourage teachers currently employed in the public school system to continue to pursue excellence within their profession. The California Mentor Teacher Program prescribes criteria for teachers in participating school districts to be classified as mentor teachers. The program, among other things, provides for stipends to be paid to mentor teachers in addition to their regular salaries.

This bill would provide that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, a teacher from another state who is certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is eligible to teach in this state without a California teaching credential. The bill would provide that a teacher who qualifies

to teach in this state pursuant to this provision shall be entitled to proper placement on a uniform salary schedule and all other benefits accruing, under the bill, to teachers certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards who hold California credentials.

The bill would express legislative intent that enactment of the bill provide support for, recognition of, and reciprocity with, teachers who intend to stand for certification through the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and that incentives be provided to teachers in California schools to participate in the certification program of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, utilizing existing funding provided through the California Mentor Teacher Program. The bill would provide that a California teacher who desires to participate in the certification program of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards may apply for funding therefor to a panel established, as specified, pursuant to the bill. This funding would consist of an amount, not to exceed ~~one-half~~ <sup>1/2</sup> the cost of National Board for Professional Teaching Standards tuition, which would be matched by a grant from another source. The panel established by the bill would require recipients of a grant pursuant to the bill to enter into an agreement ~~to teach in a California public elementary or secondary school for a period of 5 years, unless an exception is granted by the panel for good cause to perform an unspecified number of hours of service in a program, as specified.~~

The bill would require that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, a teacher who acquires a national board certificate shall qualify both for classification as a mentor teacher and for receipt of a stipend. Because this bill would impose new duties on school districts that participate in the California Mentor Teacher Program, it would constitute a state-mandated local program.

(2) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement, including the creation of a State Mandates Claims Fund to pay the costs of mandates that do not exceed \$1,000,000 statewide and other



procedures for claims whose statewide costs exceed \$1,000,000.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 44202.5 is added to the  
2 Education Code, to read:

3 44202.5. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,  
4 a teacher from another state who is certified by the  
5 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is  
6 eligible to teach in this state without satisfying any  
7 requirements of this chapter. A teacher who qualifies to  
8 teach in this state pursuant to this section shall be entitled  
9 to proper placement on a uniform salary schedule and all  
10 other benefits accruing, pursuant to Section 44496.5, to  
11 teachers certified by the National Board for Professional  
12 Teaching Standards who hold California credentials.

13 SEC. 2. Section 44496.5 is added to the Education  
14 Code, to read:

15 44496.5. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of  
16 the following:

17 (1) A central challenge in school reform is the  
18 challenge of seeking to enable the teaching profession to  
19 attract the highest caliber novices and to retain the very  
20 best veterans. To help accomplish this goal, a coalition of  
21 teachers, administrators, politicians, and education  
22 reform advocates founded the National Board for  
23 Professional Teaching Standards in 1987.

24 (2) The mission of the National Board for Professional  
25 Teaching Standards has been to create a first for  
26 teachers—a national certification program that  
27 recognizes the most accomplished teachers across the  
28 country within their respective content areas and grade  
29 levels.



1 (3) *Teachers who demonstrate that they meet these*  
2 *standards receive National Board Certification, a mark of*  
3 *teaching excellence and quality assurance.*

4 (4) Unlike licensure, which aims to ensure minimum  
5 competence, certification by the National Board for  
6 Professional Teaching Standards would identify and  
7 acknowledge the most talented members of the teaching  
8 corps.

9 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature that both of the  
10 following occur:

11 (1) That the enactment of the act that adds this section  
12 provide support for, recognition of, and reciprocity with,  
13 teachers who intend to stand for certification through the  
14 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

15 (2) That incentives be provided to teachers in  
16 California schools to participate in the certification  
17 program of the National Board for Professional Teaching  
18 Standards utilizing existing funding provided through the  
19 California Mentor Teacher Program.

20 (c) (1) A California teacher who desires to participate  
21 in the certification program of the National Board for  
22 Professional Teaching Standards may apply for funding  
23 therefor to the panel established pursuant to paragraph  
24 (2). Funding received pursuant to this subdivision shall  
25 consist of an amount not to exceed one-half the cost of  
26 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards  
27 tuition, which shall be matched by a grant from another  
28 source. The panel shall require recipients of a grant  
29 pursuant to this section to enter into an agreement to  
30 ~~teach in a California public elementary or secondary~~  
31 ~~school for a period of five years, unless an exception is~~  
32 ~~granted by the panel for good cause. perform at least~~  
33 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ hours of service in the California Mentor~~  
34 ~~Teacher Program, the California beginning teacher~~  
35 ~~support and assessment program, or a related program.~~

36 (2) The panel shall consist of the Superintendent of  
37 Public Instruction, the President of the University of  
38 California, and the Chancellor of the California State  
39 University, *the Executive Director of the Commission on*  
40 *Teacher Credentialing*, or their respective designees.



1 The panel shall review and screen applicants for funding  
2 under this subdivision. Notwithstanding any other  
3 provision of law, a teacher who acquires a certificate from  
4 the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards  
5 shall qualify for both of the following:

6 (1) Classification as a mentor teacher under this  
7 article.

8 (2) Receipt of a stipend pursuant to Section 44494.

9 SEC. 3. Notwithstanding Section 17610 of the  
10 Government Code, if the Commission on State Mandates  
11 determines that this act contains costs mandated by the  
12 state, reimbursement to local agencies and school  
13 districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7  
14 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title  
15 2 of the Government Code. If the statewide cost of the  
16 claim for reimbursement does not exceed one million  
17 dollars (\$1,000,000), reimbursement shall be made from  
18 the State Mandates Claims Fund.

19 Notwithstanding Section 17580 of the Government  
20 Code, unless otherwise specified, the provisions of this act  
21 shall become operative on the same date that the act  
22 takes effect pursuant to the California Constitution.

