

Assembly Bill No. 27

CHAPTER 5

An act relating to teaching credentials.

[Approved by Governor April 12, 1999. Filed with
Secretary of State April 12, 1999.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 27, Leach. State basic skills proficiency test.

Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to adopt and the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to administer the state basic skills proficiency test to determine whether applicants for teaching credentials are qualified to receive the credentials. Existing law requires the State Board of Education to adopt statewide academically rigorous content and performance standards in core curriculum areas.

This bill would require the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to review the state basic skills proficiency test to evaluate the test's content validity, reliability, and passing scores. The bill would require the commission to submit a written report pertaining to this review, including any findings and recommendations, to the Legislature, the Governor, and the State Board of Education.

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

SECTION 1. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting the act adding this section to evaluate the reliability and validity of the content of the California Basic Education Skills Test (CBEST) in order to ensure that teachers employed by California public schools are measured by a proper assessment of basic competency in areas of reading, writing, and mathematics, and that the passing score is set at an appropriate level.

(b) The Commission on Teacher Credentialing shall review the state basic skills proficiency test to evaluate the test's content validity, reliability, and passing scores. The Commission on Teacher Credentialing shall submit a written report pertaining to the review of the test, including any findings and recommendations, to the Legislature, the Governor, and the State Board of Education on or before January 1, 2001.

O

