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LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS
54th Legislature, 1st Session, 2019

Bill Number	<u>HB412/aHEC</u>	Sponsor	<u>Trujillo, C./Ferrary/Bash/Figueroa/Lara</u>
Tracking Number	<u>.212666.1</u>	Committee Referrals	<u>HEC/H AFC</u>
Short Title	<u>Certified School Employee Program Units</u>		
Analyst	<u>Bedeaux</u>	Original Date	<u>2/13/19</u>
		Last Updated	<u>2/21/19</u>

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis of HEC Amendment

The House Education Committee Amendment to HB412 (HB412/aHEC) would include all licensed school employees certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (National Board) in the calculation of National Board certification program units in the state equalization guarantee (SEG), regardless of the position held by the employee.

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Bill 412 (HB412) would include all licensed school employees certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (National Board) when calculating National Board certification program units in the state equalization guarantee (SEG).

FISCAL IMPACT

HB412/aHEC does not contain an appropriation.

Since FY04, the SEG has included a factor to provide National Board-certified teachers a one-time salary increase for earning certification; HB412/aHEC would generate a greater number of units in the SEG by expanding eligibility to all licensed school employees, including teachers, school administrators, and instructional support providers. Without an increase in appropriations to the SEG, an increase in the number of units would dilute the unit value, impacting school districts and charter schools statewide.

Based on data from the National Board, the National Board has certified as many as 1,212 teachers, counselors, and instructional support providers in the state, though it is unclear how many of those employees work in public schools. In FY19, the SEG included funding for 661 National Board-certified teachers; under HB412/aHEC, up to 551 non-teacher licensed school employees would generate new SEG units totaling approximately \$3.5 million dollars, nearly doubling the funds required to cover the cost of National Board certification units.

HB412/aHEC could encourage licensed school personnel to seek National Board certification, increasing the fiscal impact of the bill over time. The number of National Board-certified teachers increased from 85 statewide in FY04, the first year program units were generated by National Board certification, to 662 in FY18. Data from the National Board shows that of 499 school personnel in New Mexico that applied for National Board certification in 2018, only 66 candidates were approved for certification.

SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

National Board certification is a voluntary system that certifies a teacher meets rigorous national standards for classroom instruction. National Board certification is offered in 25 different content areas, with most applying to teachers, but others being offered for school counselors or library media specialists.

The SEG has distributed funding to school districts and charter schools to give National Board-certified teachers a one-time salary increase that is at least the amount of money generated by the National Board certification program units. The units generated by each school district and charter school are equal to the number of National Board-certified teachers employed multiplied by a cost differential of 1.5.

HB412/aHEC would expand the National Board certification salary increases to include all licensed school employees, even if those employees hold a teaching certification but are employed in an administrative position. Because the National Board does not currently offer certification for school administrators, HB412/aHEC would expand eligibility to offer stipends to principals and other administrators who obtained certification but left the field of teaching.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Each school district and charter school would need to certify to PED the number of licensed school personnel that has a National Board certification. PED may also be required to audit and verify this information.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

HB412/aHEC is similar to SB200 from the 2017 Legislative session, which passed in both chambers but was vetoed by the governor. SB200 was amended to allow units to be generated only for personnel certified by the National Board in the position they hold.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- LESC Files

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