Educator Licensure, Permanent Rule 0520-02-03

The Background:

At the State Board's meeting in July 2014 the Board unanimously approved of a change to the Board's rules on teacher licensure. That change streamlined the current licensure rule to simplify the licensure process and consolidate the numerous different types of teacher licenses currently being issued. It also enacted a new process for educators to advance or renew their teaching license. These changes are further detailed in the Board's new Educator Licensure policy (5.502) which began implementation September 1, 2015.

This rule was promulgated in accordance with all requirements and was set to take effect on June 1, 2015. However, it was recently discovered that due to a technical anomaly in the rule omnibus bill passed by the General Assembly[1] the teacher licensure rule was inadvertently left out of the bill and as such, was allowed to expire on June 30th, 2015.

In order to correct this technical anomaly and to ensure that the rule was effective before the September 1, 2015 implementation date, the Board re-approved the rule as an emergency rule at the July 2015 board meeting. As required by statute, a rulemaking hearing was held on August 28, 2015.

Because the emergency rule is only effective on a temporary basis, this item is a re-approval of the permanent rule on teacher licensure so that the rule can be promulgated on a permanent basis.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

The Recommendation:

SBE staff recommends adoption of this item on final reading.

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[1] All rules, by law are set to expire on June 30th of the year following their filing unless they are included in a rule omnibus bill. The rule omnibus bill is a general bill continuing all rules filed in the preceding year indefinitely so that they do not expire on June 30th. *See* Pub. Ch. 349 (109th General Assembly); T.C.A. § 4-5-226