

- SUBJECT:** Certification programs for trade and industrial workforce training
- COMMITTEE:** Public Education — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 9 ayes — Huberty, Bernal, Bohac, Deshotel, Gooden, K. King, Koop, Meyer, VanDeaver
- 0 nays
- 2 absent — Allen, Dutton
- WITNESSES:** For — Molly Weiner, Texas Aspires Foundation; Mike Meroney, Texas Workforce Coalition, BASF Corporation, Huntsman Corporation; Mario Lozoya, Toyota; Lloyd Verstuyft; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Michael Chatron, AGC Texas Building Branch; Jon Fisher, Associated Builders and Contractors of Texas; Diann Andy, Bexar County Democratic Women; Annie Spilman, National Federation of Independent Business-Texas; Jennifer Rodriguez, Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Association of Texas; Lorena Campos, Port San Antonio; Priscilla Camacho, San Antonio Chamber of Commerce; Seth Rau, San Antonio ISD; Courtney Boswell, Texas Aspires; Felicia Wright, Texas Association of Builders; Miranda Goodsheller, Texas Association of Business; Stephanie Simpson, Texas Association of Manufacturers; Justin Yancy, Texas Business Leadership Council; Michael White, Texas Construction Association)
- Against — None
- On — Holly Eaton, Texas Classroom Teachers Association; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Zenobia Joseph; Kara Belew, Marilyn Cook, and Tim Miller, Texas Education Agency)
- BACKGROUND:** Concerns have been raised about a shortage of trade skills teachers and a corresponding shortage of trained workers in technical professions. With a large number of skilled employees expected to retire in the coming years, some have suggested providing an abbreviated educator preparation

program to certify teachers in trade and industrial workforce training to provide additional qualified teachers in this area while enhancing the workforce.

DIGEST:

CSHB 3349 would require the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) to create a probationary trade and industrial workforce training certificate and a standard trade and industrial workforce training certificate that could be obtained through an abbreviated educator preparation program.

Program eligibility and rules. A person would be eligible for admission to an abbreviated educator preparation program under the bill if he or she:

- had been issued a high school diploma or GED;
- had seven years of full-time, wage-earning experience within the preceding 10 years in an approved occupation for which the instruction is offered;
- held a current license, certificate, or registration issued by a nationally recognized accrediting agency in that occupation; and
- had not been the subject of a complaint filed with the licensing entity or other agency that regulates the person's occupation during his or her full-time experience in the past 10 years, unless the complaint was determined to have been baseless.

In proposing rules for an abbreviated educator preparation program, SBEC would be required to ensure the program required at least 80 hours of classroom instruction in:

- a specific method and practice of teaching;
- creating lesson plans and tests;
- classroom management; and
- relevant federal and state education laws.

Probationary certificate program. To be eligible for a probationary trade and industrial workforce training certificate, a person would be required to satisfactorily complete the required coursework under an

abbreviated educator preparation program and satisfy any other requirements prescribed by SBEC.

Standard certificate program. To be eligible for a standard trade and industrial workforce training certificate, a person would be required to hold a probationary trade and industrial workforce training certificate and be employed by:

- a public or private primary or secondary school or an institution of higher education; and
- perform satisfactorily on a standard trade and industrial workforce training certificate exam prescribed by SBEC.

The limit of four retakes for a person attempting to pass a certification test would not apply to the administration of the standard trade and industrial workforce training certificate exam.

Certificate program rules. SBEC would be required to propose rules to:

- establish requirements for a probationary certificate, including specifying its term;
- establish requirements for the term and renewal of a standard certificate;
- prescribe an examination to qualify for the standard trade and industrial workforce training certificate; and
- establish standards to govern the approval and renewal of educator preparation programs for certification in trade and industrial workforce training.

Effective date. This bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2017.

NOTES:

In its fiscal note, the Legislative Budget Board estimates CSHB 3349 would cost \$413,388 in general revenue related funds in fiscal 2018-19.