

Senate DFL Educator Licensure Governance Proposal

This proposal aligns with OLA recommendations, and provides needed reforms to ensure the teacher licensure process is efficient and transparent:

- Consolidates all teacher-licensure applications into one state entity (Professional Educator Standards Board);
- Provides the necessary structure to provide accurate and thorough information on how to appeal licensure decisions made;
- Provides consistency and transparency to the licensure process;
- Follows the state model of the majority of professional licensing boards (accounting, nursing, dentistry, optometry, pharmacy, POST);
- Eliminates staff duplication (executive director);
- Eliminates “top down” structure and provides open discussion on licensure issues;
- Provides clarity on which entity deals with ethics issues;
- Provides a board with a broad spectrum of members to represent the state as a whole on licensing issues;
- Provides for a board that has licensure expertise and public members with “on the ground” knowledge of how current practices are working;
- Provides a consistent, transparent and non-threatening way for educators and the public to voice their positions on licensing issues.

Minnesota Professional Educator Standards Board

- Combined board for all educators
- 13- member board appointed by the Governor with advice and consent from the Senate
 - 7 teachers licensed to teach and currently teaching in a Minnesota school
 - 1 higher education representative, who must be a faculty member preparing teachers
 - 1 higher education representative, who must be a faculty member in an educational administration program
 - 1 licensed school administrator currently employed by a Minnesota school or school district
 - 1 licensed community education director or licensed Early Childhood Education teacher
 - 1 public member who must be a parent of a student enrolled in a Minnesota public school
 - 1 public member who must be a current or former public school board member
- Membership terms set by Minnesota Statutes Section 214.09
- Governor shall solicit recommendations from group representing above
- Duties:
 - Review and approve teacher preparation programs
 - Review and approve educational administration programs

- Issue, approve or deny educator licensing applications
 - Rulemaking authority related to licensure and preparation program requirements
 - Review professional misconduct and discipline matters
 - Determine deficiencies in a candidate's application and how to rectify the deficiency.
- Hire an Executive Director and the necessary staff members to perform its duties, with appropriate funding from the legislature.