

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS26107

Idaho imposes some of the strictest regulations on charter schools in the country. For example, most other states do not require charter school administrators to hold a school administrator certificate, which allows a charter school board of directors flexibility to choose an administrator who best fits their school. Currently, unlike most states, Idaho state law requires employment as an administrator to be on written contract conditioned upon a valid certificate. Additionally, a public school does not receive salary apportionment for an administrator unless the individual holds an administrator certificate. As more local communities seek to replicate public charter school education models proven successful for students in other states, they are struggling to recruit experienced administrators from outside Idaho, where certificates may not be required. This bill would create a new charter school administrator certificate as an alternative to traditional administrator certificates. An administrator would be eligible for a charter school administrator certificate if they (1) hold a bachelor's degree, (2) pass a criminal background check, (3) receive training on teacher evaluation, and (4) demonstrate a charter school board of directors seeks to hire them and commits to overseeing their work. This would not be a mandate on charter schools; charter school administrators could continue to hold a traditional administrator certificate or could hold a charter school administrator certificate.

FISCAL NOTE

This bill will have no fiscal impact to the general fund. Though the State Board of Education and State Department of Education would be tasked with developing and administering the certification, this is already required under existing law, so it should not result in increased costs.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).