

One Hundred Third Legislature - First Session - 2013

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB645

Chairperson: Senator Kate Sullivan

Committee: Education

Date of Hearing: February 11, 2013

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 645 would establish a new formula for the teacher education allowance in the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act (TEEOSA). The current formula recognizes additional costs when districts employ more teachers with master's degrees and doctorate degrees than the statewide average. LB 645 would recognize the additional costs for districts which employ teachers with additional college credit hours at nine hour increments, similar to most salary schedules.

Only credit hours related to the teacher's teaching assignment subject area or discipline would be recognized. The amount of the allowance is capped at \$25 million. Each district would receive some amount of teacher education allowance, the amount depending on the college credit hours reported by the school districts. The formula would avoid the problem with the current formula where districts fall in and out of the allowance based on a small change in the number of teachers they have on staff who hold master's degrees (a yo-yo effect).

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Ken Haar