

SUBJECT: Allowing former Air Force Community College instructors to teach K-12

COMMITTEE: Public Education — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 12 ayes — Buckley, Allen, Allison, Cunningham, Dutton, Harrison,  
Hefner, Hinojosa, K. King, Longoria, Schaefer, Talarico

0 nays

1 absent — Cody Harris

SENATE VOTE: On final passage (April 20) — 31 - 0

WITNESSES: None (*Considered in a formal meeting on May 18*)

BACKGROUND: Some have suggested that allowing military members who have experience as instructors at the Community College of the Air Force to obtain a temporary teaching certificate to teach in K-12 classrooms could help address the teacher shortage.

DIGEST: SB 544 would require the State Board for Educator Certification to propose rules providing for a person who had at least two semesters' experience as a full-time instructor for the Community College of the Air Force to:

- be issued a temporary teaching certificate on the person's enrollment in an educator preparation program; and
- receive credit for the person's education, training, and clinical or professional experience as an instructor toward the requirements for completion of an educator preparation program.

A temporary teaching certificate issued under the bill would be valid for one year from the date of issuance.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2023.