



Policy Brief



updated: March 23, 2018

Teacher Preparation Package

Bill Numbers: House Bills 5598-5605 (as substituted in committee)

Status: House Floor

MASB Position: NEUTRAL

What does it do? [House Bills 5598-5605](#) would create and amend current standards for teacher education preparation programs and policies that teacher preparation institutions must abide by in order to be certified by the state. Each of these bills deal with a specific area concerning with teacher prep programs. HB 5598 would require teacher preparation faculty to do professional development in a K-12 setting. HB 5599 creates a warranty program, where a teacher who is deemed ineffective can retake courses at any Michigan institution and the cost will be borne by the institution from which s/he graduated. HBs 5600 and 5602 creates stipends for individuals who take on a student teacher or mentor new teachers. HB 5601 requires students to have a combined 400 hours of classroom or practicum experience and HB 5604 sets new requirements for student teaching experiences. Finally, HB 5605 requires data and statistics, among other things, be included in all teacher prep curriculums.

How does it affect public schools? These bills create more stringent requirements for teacher preparation institutions and the students they teach. They are aimed at making all Michigan teacher preparation institutions able to not only produce effective teachers, but to retain those that can adequately educate our K-12 students. Ideally, these changes would create teachers better prepared for their first years in a classroom. HB 5604 would require districts to enter into partnership agreements with a teacher preparation institution in order to receive student teachers from its program.

Why is MASB neutral? MASB supports quality education programs for our teachers and their preparation to ensure that they are well rounded and prepared for the classroom. However, MASB does have concerns with the details of these bills and therefore opted not take a position yet. We will continue to monitor this legislation and seek improvements to make sure that the final product is beneficial for potential new teachers, our students and the districts that invest in them.