

## HB 281 -- Teacher Certificates

Co-Sponsors: Moore, Walton, Dethrow, Purgason, Wallace, Holand, Black, Crawford, Deeken, Schlottach, Kelly (36), Guest, Baker, Bough, Wilson (119), Haywood, Wilson (130), Dixon, Shoemyer (9), Rupp, Hoskins, Emery, Parker, Shoemaker (8), Smith (14)

Currently, teacher certificates include three levels, the first two of which are steps to a continuous professional certificate, which is renewable every 10 years. This bill replaces the three-level system with a lifetime certificate of license and grants a lifetime certificate to current certificate holders as of August 28, 2003. The bill also deletes references to the five-year provisional certification granted to teachers with out-of-state certificates and grants a lifetime license to validly certified teachers from other states hired to teach in this state, upon completion of a background check. Applicants from other states who have completed the background check, have graduated from state-approved preparation programs, and have achieved the appropriate score on Missouri's exit assessment for teachers are also granted a lifetime license.