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## SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Connie Leyva, Chair

2019 - 2020 Regular

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**Bill No:** SB 478 **Hearing Date:** April 10, 2019  
**Author:** Rubio  
**Version:** March 25, 2019  
**Urgency:** No **Fiscal:** Yes  
**Consultant:** Ian Johnson

**Subject:** Commission on Teacher Credentialing: membership.

### SUMMARY

This bill changes the membership of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) by replacing one public member with a certificated public school human resource administrator.

### BACKGROUND

Existing law establishes the CTC as the agency responsible for state standards for educator preparation for public schools, licensing and credentialing professional educators, enforcing professional practice of educators, and disciplining credential holders in California.

The CTC consists of 15 voting members, including the State Superintendent of Public Instruction or their designee and 14 members appointed by the Governor. The Commissioners consist of six classroom teachers, one school administrator, one school board member, one school counselor or services credential holder, one higher education faculty member from an institution for teacher education, and four public members. The Commissioners are typically appointed to four-year terms, and serve as volunteers in unpaid positions.

### ANALYSIS

This bill changes the membership of the CTC by replacing one public member with a certificated public school human resource administrator and deletes reference to the California Postsecondary Education Commission with regard to non-voting, ex-officio members.

### STAFF COMMENTS

- 1) ***Need for the bill.*** According to the author, "The CTC is charged with establishing professional standards, assessments, and examinations for entry and advancement in the education profession for teachers, administrators, service credentials, and alternative credentials. Furthermore, the CTC oversees teacher and administrator training programs, beginner teacher and administrator induction, the preparation and issuance of credentials for teachers and administrators and other credential holders. The CTC develops and amends credentials to reflect changes to the teaching and administrative profession.

Understanding credentialing and matching the credentialed employee and classroom or assignment is absolutely necessary to ensure students are being served by the correct credentialed employee.

The last significant change to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) membership was in 1978 with minor adjustments over time. Additionally, there is no one who serves on the CTC whose sole responsibility is to staff a school or district and address credential assignments.

Finally, the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC), no longer exists yet is still mentioned as a member of the CTC.”

- 2) ***What does the CTC do?*** All states have certain processes intended to address teacher quality. In California, state law establishes the CTC and entrusts it with accrediting teacher preparation programs, credentialing teachers, and monitoring teacher conduct. The purpose of accrediting programs and credentialing individuals is to ensure that programs and teachers are of sufficient quality. Monitoring teacher conduct protects children by ensuring individuals with records of serious or violent crimes are not hired as teachers and that teacher behavior in the classroom is appropriate.

The CTC is responsible for appointing members to its committees on credentials and accreditation. The Committee on Credentials is responsible for initiating all investigations into allegations of misconduct by credential holders and applicants. The Committee on Accreditation is charged with the task of deciding on the continuing accreditation of educator preparation institutions and programs, deciding on the initial accreditation of programs submitted by eligible institutions, and determining the comparability of national or alternative program standards with California standards of educator preparation.

- 3) ***Would the CTC benefit from a human resource administrator’s perspective?*** Of the responsibilities given to the CTC, their deepest policy work is in establishing teacher credential standards. For each type of professional credential in education, the CTC develops and adopts standards which are based upon recent research and the expert advice of many professional educators. When considering teacher standards, supporters of this bill argue that having a voting member with expertise on the challenges of recruiting and retaining teachers would be a helpful perspective.

While school human resource administrators bring a different perspective relative to the current public members of the CTC, the membership does appear to be well-rounded already, with the public representatives with experience in higher education financial aid, career planning and community engagement, education strategy, and program management. Further, the Committee may wish to consider whether reclassifying one of the public representatives will establish a precedent for other changes to accommodate other various, more narrow, perspectives.

- 4) ***Reference to the CPEC.*** Under existing law, the CTC consists of four non-voting, ex-officio members appointed by the University of California, the

California State University, the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC), and the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities. In the absence of the CPEC representative, the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges may appoint an alternate representative.

The CPEC was previously charged with developing an ongoing statewide plan for the postsecondary education system, recommending policies to better meet the state's higher education needs, and advising the Governor and the Legislature on budget and policy priorities to preserve high quality higher education access. Given that CPEC was eliminated in 2011, striking reference to the organization within the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) statutes makes sense.

**SUPPORT**

Association of California School Administrators  
Riverside County Office of Education

**OPPOSITION**

None received

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