

EXHIBIT 4
DATE 2-16-05
HB 629

BILL SUMMARY – HB 629

Alternate Teacher Certification

- (1) Allows local school trustees to adopt a policy for hiring qualified persons who do not hold a state teacher certificate, to teaching positions in the district on a one-year trial “internship” basis.
- (2) To qualify for the internship teaching position, the personal must satisfy the basic criteria set out in the bill. The person then becomes “alternately certified” by the trustees for a one-year period.
- (3) Following the one-year internship and evaluation period, the school district has the option to recommend the person for a permanent teacher certificate. OPI will then issue this certificate, which allows them to be hired by any school in the state.

COMMENT: This bill empowers local schools with the ability to hire, on a trial basis, outstanding teachers who may not be state certified. Currently, schools cannot hire such individuals without jeopardizing their accreditation. There are sometimes wonderful people available for positions, who have a great flair for teaching and exceptional “real life” knowledge and experience in the subject to be taught. This bill allows districts the flexibility to hire the occasional stand-out individual who is not certified, while providing a means for this “intern” to become certified after one year.