



Input to SBEC Regarding Item 16: Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 232

December 10, 2021

The **Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE)** offers the following comments to the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) regarding Item 19 of the Dec. 2021 agenda and the proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 232, General Certification Provisions, Subchapter A, Certificate Renewal and Continuing Professional Education Requirements.

Senate Bill (SB) 1267, passed by the 87th Texas Legislature in the 2021 regular session, was the product of a continuing professional education (CPE) and professional development (PD) workgroup convened more than two years ago by Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick. ATPE Senior Lobbyist Monty Exter led a subgroup of the workgroup and was a key stakeholder in providing the recommendations that led to SB 1267. As such, ATPE is thankful for the bill and interested in the fidelity of its implementation.

As background, SB 1267 streamlined the CPE requirements for educators by examining and strategically eliminating duplicative training requirements across multiple sections of statute, even outside of the Texas Education Code. For example, if training on the same topic was required in three different ways, the workgroup sought to maintain an instance of the training that was funded or otherwise made the most sense to keep while eliminating the other instances. Though it may seem that some important topics are being eliminated from the CPE required for educators to renew their certificates, those topics are still being covered through PD that districts are required to provide.

At the Oct. 2021 SBEC meeting and in response to a subsequent request from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for stakeholder feedback, ATPE provided input on how to implement SB 1267. ATPE encouraged SBEC to follow SB 1267 by eliminating the required topics while ensuring educators receive guidance, clarity, and flexibility in how to fulfil their CPE renewal requirements. ATPE also suggested clarifying that the required training pertaining to students with disabilities explicitly includes general information regarding dyslexia. ATPE appreciates the improvements made to Rule 232.11(1), which clarifies that dyslexia training will be subsumed within the required training on students with disabilities, and we agree with the rest of the proposal. ATPE also appreciates being included in the Continuing Education and Training Clearinghouse Advisory Group.

ATPE appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback during this process and invites board members and TEA staff to contact ATPE Governmental Relations at (800) 777-2873 or government@atpe.org for any additional information.