

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate Education Committee

FROM: Joel D. Cook, Executive Director, Vermont-NEA

DATE: March 11, 2014

SUBJECT: Changes to make in the teacher relicensing process

Vermont-NEA is seeking to change the current relicensing process by:

1. **Removing, as of July 1, 2014, the obligations to develop an IPLP (individual professional learning plan) and portfolio**
2. Retaining all other current components of the process (primarily all continuing education obligations, any attestation required, and fee payment)
3. Working in collaboration with the Standards Board for Professional Educators and Agency of Education to improve the process otherwise so that it contributes to a teachers' professional growth

Only item 1 above requires either legislation or a quick administrative decision.

If legislation is needed, it could read as follows, as drafted in February by Legislative Council:

Sec. __. EDUCATOR LICENSE RENEWAL; INDIVIDUAL PROFESSIONAL LEARNING PLAN

(a) Notwithstanding any Rules Governing the Licensing of Educators (Rules) adopted by the Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators (Board) to the contrary, the renewal of a Professional Educator's License shall not require or be based upon the development, identification, evaluation, or self-evaluation of an Individual Professional Learning Plan, a professional portfolio, or professional learning goals. The Board may require an applicant to document completion of a certain number of hours or credits of professional learning; provided, however, that an applicant shall not be required to identify or affirm a connection between the learning and the applicant's unique professional goals.

(b) On or before **[DATE]**, the Board shall adopt amended rules to conform to this section.

(c) This section shall apply to applications for renewal filed on or after July 1, 2014.