

### SB 216 – Public School Deregulation Act

This bill, sponsored by Senator Matt Huffman (R-12), had its genesis in a meeting that the senator had with superintendents in his Senate district. The intent of the bill is not only to reduce state mandates but also to increase local control.

Among many provisions, the bill would expand the existing PreK-3 license to PreK-5 while maintaining both the grades four through nine and the grades seven-12 bands. It would create additional intervention specialist license options to support dual licensure in general and special education. It would also give superintendents authority to assign experienced teacher within two grades of licensure for period of up to three years.

The bill would also align proposed rules for serving gifted students by changing the required 60 hours of training over two years to 60 hours over four years and granting credit to those teachers who have completed training in either the Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate programs.

Major changes would also be made to the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES) by implementing most of the changes recommended by the Educator Standards Board. One of the significant changes would be to replace the value-added progress dimension with a requirement for using “high quality student data” as determined by the school district.

Discussions are continuing on such issues as the requirement for substitute aides to secure educator licenses and the elimination of SLOs from OTES.