

Senate Executive-January 9, 2021 11am
Jennifer Ross, Lobbyist for National Board Certified Teachers
Support HB 2170 Amendment 2

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards **strongly supports** the provisions in HB2170, Amendment #2 that amend the Illinois Teaching Excellence Act.

The amended language in Section 21B-70 is a trailer to Public Act 101-0333 that was passed in the Spring of 2019 on behalf of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

The provisions in HB 2170 Amendment #2 will:

- **Increase** the number of racially and ethnically diverse candidates going through National Board Certification by providing teachers the opportunity to come together as a cohort to discuss their teaching strategies and gain new perspectives while completing the National Board Certification Process. Teachers will be able to utilize the new ideas that they learn from other cohort members in their schools and incorporate these strategies for teaching and learning into the lessons that directly impact their students all while going through the certification process.
- **Includes** Diverse Candidate Cohort Facilitators and Diverse Liaisons in the annual incentives. Facilitators can receive \$3,200 for their work and Liaisons can receive \$2,500 for their work.
- **Clarify** that the rural/remote school address, not the district office address needs to be considered Rural/Remote.
- **Allow** for Tier 2 schools to be eligible for Rural/Remote incentives. (Many schools bounce between Tier 1 and Tier 2)
- **Allow** for payments to be made to an entity or individual.

By passing this bill in Lam Duck Session, the benefits of the legislation will be able to be used during the Spring Application window that opens on March 1, 2021.

More than a decade of research from across the country confirms that students taught by National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) learn more than students taught by other teachers. Estimates of the increase in learning are on the order of an additional **one to two months** of instruction and the positive impact is even greater for high-need students.

Just as teachers differentiate instruction for their students, the National Board process differentiates for teachers. There are 25 certificates available across various disciplines, age ranges, and developmental levels.

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- ⇒ Illinois currently ranks sixth in the nation with over 6,700 NBCTs.
- ⇒ 97% of teachers change their teaching after going through the National Board process.
- ⇒ New teachers mentored by NBCTs produce **6.5** months of additional learning compared to new teachers mentored by non-NBCTs.
- ⇒ A recent comprehensive study by the nonpartisan National Research Council found that students taught by board certified teachers make higher gains on achievement tests than students taught by other teachers. In fact, improved student learning and achievement are two key benefits of the programs and services provided through NBPTS.