

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**SYNOPSIS AGENDA/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

<b>CODE:</b>	EP-02
<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	Education Professions
<b>DATE:</b>	August 9, 2016

**SUBJECT/TITLE**

Educator Request to Waive Provisions of R. 43-53 Credential Classification (Laura Jumper)

**PURPOSE OF REPORT/REGULATION/ITEM**

Educator Laura Jumper requests that the State Board of Education waive provisions of R. 43-53 with regards to the effective date of a credential upgrade.

**CRITICAL FACTS**

Regulation 43-53 Credential Classification establishes the requirements for credential advancement and the timelines for determining the effective date of the credential change.

Eligibility for credential advancement is contingent upon submission of all required documentation including an official transcript and the Request for Change/Action form.

The following timeline established in R. 43-53 is included on the Request for Change/Action form:

If the State Department of Education (SCDE) receives the educator's request and all required documentation between

- May 1 and November 1: The change in status, if approved, will be effective July 1 of the same calendar year.
- November 2 and April 30: If the educator submitted the request within 45 days of fulfilling the requirements, the change in status, if approved, will be effective on the date that all requirements were satisfied.
- November 2 and April 30: If the educator submitted the request more than 45 days after fulfilling the requirements, the change in status, if approved, will be effective on the date that all information was received by the SCDE.

Educator Laura Jumper holds a valid educator certificate in the areas of Early Childhood Education and Reading Teacher effective until June 30, 2025. She holds National Board Certification in the area of Early Childhood.

According to records in the Teacher Certification System, Ms. Jumper visited the Office of Educator Services reception area on June 11, 2015, and submitted a Request for Change/Action form to evaluate her file for eligibility to advance her credential to the Master's +30 level. A

certification analyst met with Ms. Jumper at that time to discuss the educator's request and provide information regarding a course offered through Brandman University. The analyst also explained that the educator may be able to use the work for her National Board renewal in 2015 toward the credential advancement.

On June 12, 2015, the analyst e-mailed Ms. Jumper and attached a copy of the course approval and provided a link to the National Board webpage outlining procedures for obtaining graduate credit for National Board renewal. Ms. Jumper replied to the e-mail for confirmation that the National Board work could be used for graduate credit toward the credential advancement. On June 16, 2015, the analyst responded and indicated that as long as the college credit is at the graduate level and submitted on an official transcript from an accredited college or university, the Office of Educator Services would accept the credit toward the Master's +30.

On May 16, 2016, Ms. Jumper submitted a Request for Change/Action form for the credential upgrade to the Master's +30 level and a transcript from the American Council on Education (ACE). An official copy of this document had arrived in Educator Services three days earlier. Ms. Jumper was not informed by the analyst meeting with her that the effective date of the credential change, if approved, would be July 1, 2016, per the requirements of R. 43-53. Information regarding the effective date of credential changes is on the Request for Change/Action form the educator signed and submitted on May 16.

On May 23, 2016, Mrs. Jumper was notified by written correspondence that ACE documentation could not be accepted toward the Master's +30 because ACE is not a higher education institution and does not offer graduate credit. The organization does, however, make credit recommendations regarding the National Board process. Subsequently, on May 24, 2016, Ms. Jumper provided an official transcript from Thomas Edison State University with twelve hours of graduate credit awarded for the National Board work. With the receipt of this transcript documenting graduate credit from a regionally accredited institution, the request for the Master's +30 was processed and the credential upgrade was issued effective July 1, 2016, per the requirements of R. 43-53.

Ms. Jumper contacted the director of the Office of Educator Services to request an earlier effective date indicating that she had not been informed of the effective dates of credential changes. The director provided an explanation in accordance with state regulation based on the date all documentation was received. The concern was also referred to the Office of General Counsel and the Chief Operating Officer for their review. SCDE Senior Staff affirmed the effective date of July 1, 2016, and indicated that the educator could request a waiver of the regulation before the State Board of Education. Ms. Jumper has requested that the committee hear her request.

#### **TIMELINE/REVIEW PROCESS**

- June 2015 Educator Laura Jumper requested an evaluation to add the Master's +30 to her educator credential and was provided with a course approval and information regarding National Board credits that might qualify.
- May 2016 Educator submitted documentation necessary for the credential advancement, and the credential upgrade was issued effective July 1, 2016.

- June 2, 2016 Educator was advised that Senior Staff had affirmed the decision of the Office of Educator Services and right to request a waiver of R. 43-53 before the State Board. Ms. Jumper indicated that she would like to pursue the waiver.
- July 8, 2016 Educator met with director of the Office of Educator Services
- August 9, 2016 Educator seeks waiver before the State Board

**ECONOMIC IMPACT**

**COST:** \_\_\_\_\_ To district for retroactive pay if approved.  
**FUND/SOURCE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTACHMENTS**

**Attachments:**  yes  no  
 (Attachments must be submitted with synopsis.)

**Name of Attachments:** Excerpt from R. 43-53 and Educator Letter

**RECOMMENDATION**

The SCDE recommends that the Education Professions Committee hear the educator’s request.

**ACTION REQUEST**

FOR APPROVAL:  FOR INFORMATION ONLY: