

Points Offered on HB 7055 for Senate Consideration
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- It is not necessary to require the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) to collect information on teacher credentials separately from certification. The bill would require the listing of all credentials on the school's website, and it is possible to check with FLDOE regarding certification status. To require collection of information in another process is unnecessary and duplicative.
- If increasing the workload for the FLDOE Office of School Choice, be sure to increase its staff. We don't want to lose the good service provided by the office because their mission has been expanded beyond their staffing.
- For the proposed new "Hope Scholarship Program," it is important to include the "continuity of educational services" provisions from the Florida House. These scholarships would serve certain students who have reported episodes of bullying, fighting or other incidents in public schools and wish to transfer to another public school or a participating nonpublic school. The continuity provisions are necessary to protect renewing students who wish to continue their education in subsequent years. The Senate proposal is designed on a first-come, first-served basis which gives no consideration to allowing renewing students to take priority over new applicants in future school years.