

## FY 2009 Issue Brief – HED – Teacher Initiative

NUMBER USHE-05

### SUMMARY

The Analyst recommends the Teacher Initiative for the Subcommittee's priority list in the amount of \$5,200,000 in ongoing funding and \$705,000 in one-time funding for FY 2009 to increase the number of graduates with teaching certificates.

### OBJECTIVE

Capacity at the institutions' Colleges of Education needs to be increased so that additional students can receive the necessary education and training to become educators. The desired result is to have enough students graduating with their teaching credentials to accommodate the demand from the public education system.

### DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

In a follow-up report to his original study on teacher supply and demand, Dr. David Sperry concludes that:

- Teacher shortages in the State remain critical
- Additional resources need to be approved for Utah' colleges and universities to recruit more students and to be able to train them
- Teacher attrition needs to be reduced (through enhanced salaries, improved working conditions, and new mentoring programs)
- More teachers must be attracted to areas experiencing critical shortages (through differential salaries, extended-year employment, more efficient scheduling, etc.)

Some of the findings of the report include the annual gap between the number of teachers trained in the state and the number of openings has stayed level at approximately 1,200. The percent of teachers leaving after two years of teaching has increased from 29.6 percent to 35 percent. The rate after five years of teaching has increased from 47.4 percent to 55.4 percent. The percentage of new teachers who received their education from Utah's colleges and universities dropped from 45.8 percent to 34.2 percent, meaning the State is relying more on importing teachers from other states.

To address this situation, the Analyst makes recommends the Subcommittee put \$5,200,000 in ongoing funding and \$705,000 in one-time funding on the priority list.

Funding to hire additional faculty to increase the Colleges' education departments would be distributed as follows:

	<u>Ongoing</u>	<u>One-time</u>
University of Utah	1,227,000	225,000
Utah State University	1,238,000	140,000
Weber State University	549,200	75,000
Southern Utah University	550,100	125,000
Dixie State College	557,400	40,000
Utah Valley State College	622,200	100,000
State Board of Regents (see below)	<u>456,100</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	<u>\$5,200,000</u>	<u>\$705,000</u>

***T. H. Bell Teacher Incentive Loan Program***

The T. H. Bell Teaching Incentive Loan program is a state-funded incentive loan program to encourage students to become educators. The program will pay up to four years' tuition and fees at a USHE institution. Partial incentive loans may also be awarded to students at Brigham Young University and Westminster College. If a recipient of the loan teaches in a public or private school for a period of time equal to the time he/she received the funding, the loan is forgiven. If the recipient does not complete a baccalaureate degree or teach in a Utah school, repayment of the loan, with interest, is required. The following table shows the number of participants in the program since its inception and the method used to repay the incentive loan.

<b>T.H. Bell Teacher Incentive Loan Program</b>	
Participant Status 1998-2007	
<b>Active Student Status</b>	
Currently Enrolled	278
Graduated, not yet teaching	17
Leave of absence	7
Pending	9
Subtotal	311
<b>Student Repayment Summary</b>	
Repaid by Teaching Only	
Recipients currently teaching	176
Recipients paid by teaching	523
Subtotal	699
Repaid by Teaching and Payment	49
Subtotal	49
Repaid by Payment	
Current recipients repaying	118
Recipients paid	137
Forgiven (death/disability)	7
Deferred	19
Delinquent	16
Subtotal	297
<b>Total Number of Participants</b>	<b>1,356</b>

Statute states that 365 awards shall be maintained. The statute further states that the Legislature shall annually appropriate sufficient funds to support the scholarships. To cover the increased cost of tuition and maintain the 365 awards, the Analyst recommends placing \$456,100 on the priority list. This amount is included in the ongoing \$5,200,000 shown above.