

has not had an opportunity to take the examinations. The temporary certificate shall be valid only for the ensuing school year and may not be renewed. The reason for the introduction of this is because the Education Committee somewhat indiscriminately and unceremoniously killed a bill that dealt with this issue, and I wanted to at least bring this part of that bill to your attention because, as it is right now, anybody coming into the state and wanting a certificate, wanting to teach for a school year, if they, after August, come in, it is impossible for them to take the test in order to get certification. And if you will notice on the sheet that I passed out regarding that calendar, these are the dates when the tests are given, when you can apply to take the test, and when the official score reports come back, and you will see that you have to register at least a month before the test is taken, and the scores are not available until nine weeks after the test is taken. So if you applied on August 25th, for instance, you were hired on August 25th, you couldn't receive your regular certificate until December because of the time lag between the time that you apply, the time that you take the test, and the time that the score reports come back, and then the time it takes the Department of Education to actually process these papers, also. So all this amendment is asking is that this certification process, that there is a period allowed in which a temporary certificate might be allowed, and this particularly affects I suppose school districts like Bellevue and others who have a lot of school teachers coming in towards the end of the year. That is all I really have to say. I would be happy to try to answer any questions.

SENATOR LABEDZ PRESIDING

SENATOR LABEDZ: Senator Withem, would you like to speak to the amendment to LB 250?

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Madam President, I would, just to clarify the procedures here in terms of the bill that Senator Schimek brought to the Education Committee versus this particular amendment. Senator Schimek did bring us a bill that dealt with various aspect of teaching certificates, this, a portion of it. Some of those other provisions the committee had problems with, like, I think it was teaching without a felony, or giving fraud...teaching without a certificate was going to be a Class II-W felony, I think, with a minimum of 50 years imprisonment and a maximum of 51 years imprisonment, I think,