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## SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair  
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

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### AB 2060 (Muratsuchi) - Experienced Mentor Teacher Stipend Program

**Version:** April 27, 2026

**Urgency:** No

**Hearing Date:** June 29, 2026

**Policy Vote:** ED. 7 - 0

**Mandate:** No

**Consultant:** Lenin Del Castillo

**Bill Summary:** This bill establishes the Experienced Mentor Teacher Stipend Program to provide \$3,000 stipends to experienced mentor teachers who supervise and support teacher candidates completing at least 500 hours of student teaching.

#### **Fiscal Impact:**

- While the establishment of the program would be contingent upon an appropriation, the bill could result in Proposition 98 General Fund cost pressures in the millions to tens of millions of dollars for the state to support the program. A precise estimate will depend on the number of mentor teachers eligible for the \$3,000 stipend.
- The Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) estimates General Fund costs of \$456,000 each year and 3.0 new positions to support the implementation and administration of the program.

**Background:** Existing law establishes the CTC and authorizes it to administer educator preparation and credentialing programs.

Existing law establishes the Student Teacher Stipend Program, administered by the CTC, to provide stipends to eligible teacher candidates completing required clinical practice hours. The law also requires the CTC to administer educator workforce grant and incentive programs intended to address teacher recruitment, preparation, and retention needs.

**Proposed Law:** This bill establishes the Experienced Mentor Teacher Stipend Program, subject to a future legislative appropriation, under the administration of the CTC.

This bill requires CTC to expand its existing online stipend administration system to collect information regarding participating mentor teachers, including credential information, teaching experience and years of service, employing LEAs, schoolsite assignment, and demographic information.

This bill requires CTC, when demand exceeds available funding, to award stipends on a first-come, first-served basis. It also requires CTC to allocate funding to LEAs that host student teachers.

This bill requires participating LEAs to provide a stipend of \$3,000 to each experienced mentor teacher who mentors a prospective educator completing 500 or more hours of student teaching.

This bill requires participating LEAs and CTC-approved teacher preparation programs to jointly establish a mentor teacher recruitment, selection, training, and support process, as specified.

The bill requires CTC, beginning January 1 of each year, to report to the Legislature regarding program participation, teacher shortage impacts, and participant demographics.

**Staff Comments:** Mentor teachers frequently receive little or no compensation, while induction mentors commonly receive stipends ranging from approximately \$1,500 to \$2,500. Compensation for student teacher mentors is far less consistent. This bill requires participating LEAs to provide a stipend of \$3,000 to each experienced mentor teacher who mentors a prospective educator completing 500 or more hours of student teaching. It defines an “experienced mentor teacher” as an educator who among other things, holds a clear credential in the subject area of mentorship, has at least three years of teaching experience and has received satisfactory evaluations for the preceding three years, and receives mentor-specific training and ongoing professional learning.

According to the author, “California continues to face persistent challenges in recruiting and retaining qualified teachers, disproportionately impacting its most vulnerable students. A critical yet under-supported component of the teacher pipeline is the role of experienced classroom teachers who mentor student teacher candidates during clinical practice, often with little or no compensation. Strong mentorship is essential to improving teacher preparedness, increasing retention, and ensuring new teachers are successful in the classroom. AB 2060 establishes the California Teacher Mentor Grant Program to compensate mentor teachers who support teacher preparation, helping improve long-term retention and strengthen the state’s educator workforce.”

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