

House Passes Bill to Relieve Teacher Shortages

By State Rep. Ann Flood

PEN ARGYL - By a unanimous vote, the House recently advanced legislation to address teacher shortages in Pennsylvania.

House Bill 27 would extend a law passed during the COVID-19 pandemic that gave Pennsylvania schools flexibility in the hiring of substitute teachers. The bill would make permanent the ability for retired educators and staff to work as substitutes in our public schools for more than 20 days without any impact on their pension, as well as the use of locally issued temporary certification for substitutes for people who have completed the educator preparation program but have not yet graduated.

The measure would also extend the portions of the law that allow for classroom monitor permits and prospective teachers who are in the process of completing their educator preparation program to also serve as substitutes until the end of the 2025-26 school year.

The measure now goes to the Senate for consideration.



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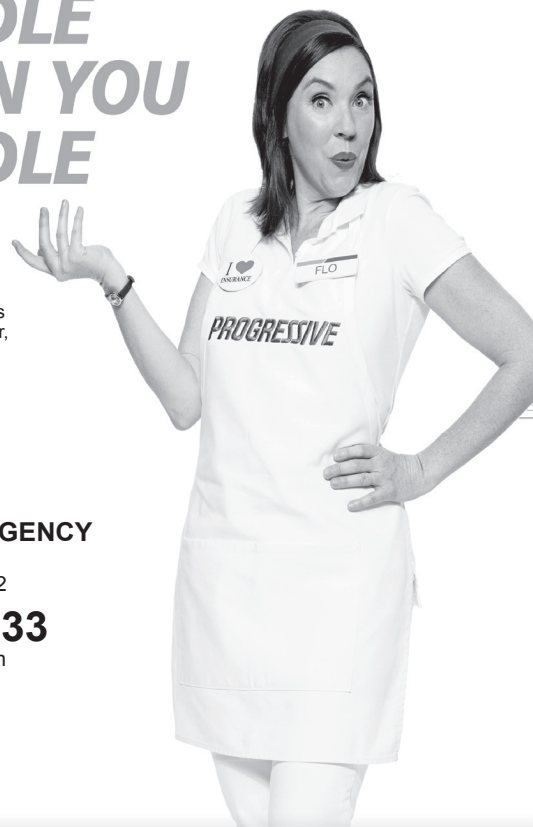


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