
HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2019 Regular Session

Substitute for Original House Bill No. 310 by Representative McMahan as proposed by the House Committee on Education

This document reflects the content of a substitute bill but is not in a bill form; page numbers in this document DO NOT correspond to page numbers in the substitute bill itself.

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:7.1(A)(3), relative to teacher certification; to provide with respect to entrance requirements into and completion of a teacher education program for such certification; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:7.1(A)(3) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§7.1. Certification of teachers; certification of principals and superintendents; certification of school psychologists

A.

* * *

(3)(a) That the applicant shall have achieved a 2.50 average on a 4.00 scale at graduation from an approved program.

(b) An applicant who has passed all requisite examinations covering pre-professional skills and content knowledge but who did not meet the requirement of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph may be certified if he completes a post-baccalaureate program as provided in this Subparagraph.

(i) Such an applicant for admission to a post-baccalaureate program may be granted conditional admission following a satisfactory personal interview by the program's admissions officer.

(ii) If the program awards credit hours, the applicant must achieve a grade point average of 3.00 or higher in post-baccalaureate program courses by the end of his first twelve credit hours and successfully complete the program.

(iii) If the program does not award credit hours, the applicant shall demonstrate mastery of competencies as required by the program administrator and by the school system in which the applicant completes required clinical practice, and

satisfactorily complete all program requirements as set forth by the state board, including any requirements for clinical practice, at graduation.

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Section 2. The state Department of Education shall develop and disseminate to all post-baccalaureate programs not later than August 1, 2019, an interview protocol and guidance document to assist in assessing an applicant's readiness to successfully complete the program.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB Draft

2019 Regular Session

Abstract: Provides with respect to grade point average and post-baccalaureate requirements for entry into a teacher education program and requirements relative to teacher certification.

Present law provides relative to certification of teachers, principals, and superintendents and school psychologists.

Present law provides that the requirements established by the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) for certification of any applicant who completes an approved teacher education program in La. shall include the following:

- (1) That the applicant attained a 2.20 average on a 4.00 scale as a condition for entrance into a teacher education program.
- (2) That the applicant achieved a 2.50 average on a 4.00 scale at graduation from a teacher education program.

Proposed law retains present law and allows, in lieu of the 2.50 grade point average in a teacher education program requirement, successful completion of a post-baccalaureate program as follows:

- (1) If the student attends a program which administers credit hours and grades, requires at least a 3.0 average on 4.00 scale in the first 12 credit hours of the program and subsequent completion of the program.
- (2) If the student attends a program which does not administer credit hours or grades, requires demonstration of mastery of required competencies as set forth by the state board and any requirements for graduation.

(Amends R.S. 17:7.1(A)(3))