

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2022 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Education to Original Senate Bill No. 377
by Senator Peacock

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1

2 On page 1, delete lines 2 and 3, and insert the following:

3 "To amend and reenact R.S. 17:7(6)(b), (c), and (e), 7.1(A)(3)(b) and (B)(1), to enact
4 R.S. 17:7.1(A)(1) and 7.2(A)(7), and to repeal R.S. 17:7.1(A)(7) and 7.2(A)(4), relative to
5 the certification of teachers; to"

6 AMENDMENT NO. 2

7 On page 1, line 10, after "Section 1." delete the remainder of the line, delete line 11, and
8 insert the following:

9 "R.S. 17:7(6)(b), (c), and (e), 7.1(A)(3)(b) and (B)(1) are hereby amended and
10 reenacted and R.S. 17:7.1(A)(1) and 7.2(A)(7) are hereby enacted to read as follows:"

11 AMENDMENT NO. 3

12 On page 1, delete lines 16 and 17, delete pages 2 through 8, on page 9, delete lines 1 through
13 4, and insert the following:

14 "(6) * * *

15 (b)(i)(aa) A person applying for initial certification as a teacher in a public
16 school shall have passed satisfactorily an examination, which shall include English
17 proficiency, pedagogical knowledge; and knowledge in his area of specialization, as
18 a prerequisite to the granting of such certificate. However, a person who is employed
19 as a foreign language teacher in a Certified Foreign Language Immersion Program
20 pursuant to R.S. 17:273.2, and who is not otherwise eligible to receive state
21 authorization to teach through participation in the Foreign Associate Teacher
22 Program, shall not be required to pass the examination required by this Subitem, but
23 shall at least have a baccalaureate degree and shall be subject to all provisions of
24 state law relative to background checks and criminal history review applicable to the
25 employment of public school personnel.

26 (bb) ~~On and after September 15, 1981, any~~ (i) Any person certified to teach
27 in another state who applies for certification to teach in the public schools of
28 Louisiana shall be required to pass satisfactorily the examination which is
29 administered in accordance with the provisions of this Paragraph as a prerequisite
30 to the granting of such certification. However, a teacher certified in another state
31 who meets all other requirements for a Louisiana certificate granted to out-of-state
32 graduates except for ~~the provisions of this Item~~ the satisfactory passage of the
33 examination shall be granted a three-year ~~nonrenewable~~ provisional certificate ~~to~~
34 ~~be used while said teacher completes the requirements set forth in this Paragraph.~~

35 (cc) (ii) Any teacher who holds a valid out-of-state teaching certificate; and
36 has at least three years of successful teaching experience in another state as
37 determined by the board, ~~and has completed one year of employment as a teacher in~~
38 ~~the Louisiana public school system or as a teacher in a Louisiana nonpublic school~~
39 ~~approved by the board as provided by law~~ shall not be required to take the
40 examination ~~administered in accordance with the provisions of this Paragraph~~ or to
41 submit any examination scores from any examination previously taken in another
42 state as a prerequisite to the granting of certification in Louisiana; Upon application
43 and verification of successful teaching experience in another state by the board,
44 the teacher shall be granted a valid standard Louisiana teaching certificate
45 ~~provided that all of the following conditions are met:~~

1 ~~(aaa) The the teacher meets all other requirements for **background checks**~~
 2 ~~**and criminal history reviews** a Louisiana certificate as may be required by law and~~
 3 ~~board policy.~~

4 ~~(bbb) The local superintendent or his designee of the public school system~~
 5 ~~employing the teacher, the local superintendent of the school system operating the~~
 6 ~~nonpublic school employing the teacher, if applicable, or, if not applicable, the~~
 7 ~~principal of the approved nonpublic school employing the teacher has recommended~~
 8 ~~the teacher for employment for the following school year subject to the receipt of a~~
 9 ~~valid Louisiana teaching certificate.~~

10 ~~(ccc) The local superintendent or his designee of the public school system~~
 11 ~~employing the teacher, the local superintendent of the school system operating the~~
 12 ~~nonpublic school employing the teacher, if applicable, or, if not applicable, the~~
 13 ~~principal of the approved nonpublic school employing the teacher has requested, on~~
 14 ~~behalf of the teacher, that the teacher be granted a valid Louisiana teaching~~
 15 ~~certificate.~~

16 ~~(dd) (iii)~~ The examination shall be administered to each student in a teacher
 17 education program at a public college or university in Louisiana prior to graduation
 18 and shall be administered to **other applicants** ~~teachers certified in other states~~ at any
 19 time such examination is offered. The board shall prescribe other qualifications and
 20 requirements and shall consider other factors.

21 ~~(ii)(iv)~~ The **state** superintendent of education shall administer the
 22 ~~forementioned~~ policy of the board. In ~~such administration of~~ **administering** the
 23 policy, the superintendent shall choose the appropriate testing instrument, shall
 24 conduct all necessary research to validate the applicability of the instrument to
 25 teacher education programs within the state of Louisiana, and shall conduct all
 26 necessary research to determine the level at which the examination is satisfactorily
 27 completed. During the conduct of the research and in the preparation of the testing
 28 instrument, the superintendent shall meet with and consider the suggestions of
 29 individual classroom teachers, representatives of teacher organizations, deans of
 30 education of the public colleges and universities of the state, and representatives of
 31 each of the governing boards for higher education.

32 ~~(iii) (v)~~ Any applicant seeking certification may apply for and take any
 33 required test or tests without limitation as to the frequency of applications or testing.

34 ~~(iv) (vi)~~ The state superintendent of education shall annually submit a report
 35 to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education
 36 relative to the examination administered pursuant to this Paragraph. Such report shall
 37 include but not be limited to the following: the number of persons to whom the
 38 examination was administered; the educational background and teaching experience
 39 of such persons; the number of persons successfully completing the examination; the
 40 effectiveness of the examination; and any suggestions for improving the
 41 examination.

42 (c) Any person who ~~fails~~ **holds at least a masters degree in the subject**
 43 **area in which he is seeking employment or any person who meets all other**
 44 **certification requirements except he failed** to successfully pass the original
 45 examination ~~required by Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, but who meets all other~~
 46 ~~certification requirements and~~ **but** who scored within ten percent of the score
 47 required for passage ~~on the original examination selected by the state superintendent~~
 48 ~~of education,~~ may be employed **as a teacher** for a period not to exceed **one year five**
 49 **years** in the following manner:

50 (i) The state superintendent of education, upon receipt of a signed affidavit
 51 by the president and superintendent of the school board to which such person has
 52 applied for employment that there is no other applicant available for employment for
 53 a specific teaching position who has met the requirements of this Section **and who**
 54 **has agreed to participate in a mentorship program offered by the school board,**
 55 may issue an emergency teaching permit to such person. Such permit shall be in
 56 effect for not more than **one year five years** ~~but may be renewed twice.~~ Such renewal
 57 ~~of the permit shall be accomplished in the same manner as the granting of the~~
 58 ~~original permit.~~ The granting of such emergency teaching permit shall in no way
 59 affect, reduce, or waive the requirement that the person successfully complete the
 60 ~~forementioned examination.~~

1 (ii) At any time the person who failed to pass the exam successfully passes
2 the examination, he **shall be certified and** may be employed on a permanent basis.

3 (iii) **After five years of effective teaching evaluations pursuant to R.S.**
4 **17:3902 and upon a signed affidavit of a superintendent of a school system**
5 **recommending to employ the person for the following school year subject to the**
6 **receipt of a valid Louisiana teaching certificate, the person shall be granted a**
7 **valid standard professional level teaching certificate by the state superintendent**
8 **of education, subject only to passing all provisions of law relative to background**
9 **checks and criminal history review.**

10 (ii)(iv) The period herein provided for the employment of **during which** a
11 teacher **is working** with an emergency teaching permit granted under the provisions
12 of this Paragraph shall not count toward tenure.

13 * * *

14 (e) The board shall not adopt any policy, rule, regulation, or other measure
15 that limits or restricts the number of times a temporary employment permit may be
16 issued to any teacher who meets all other requirements of current board policy, has
17 applied for employment for a specific teaching position for which position there is
18 no other applicant available for employment who has met the requirements of this
19 Paragraph, has the recommendation of the superintendent of the school system
20 employing such teacher, and has had a successful local evaluation for the previous
21 four years prior to such issuance. Any such policy, rule, regulation, or other measure
22 in effect on July 1, 1993 shall be null and void.

23 * * *

24 §7.1. Certification of teachers; certification of principals and superintendents;
25 certification of school psychologists

26 A. In carrying out its responsibility to prescribe the qualifications and provide
27 for the certification of teachers under authority of R.S. 17:7(6), the qualifications and
28 requirements established by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
29 for certification of any applicant for certification who completes an approved teacher
30 education program in Louisiana shall include but not be limited to the following:

31 (1) **Beginning with the 2024-2025 academic year, that each approved**
32 **teacher education program shall not require more than one hundred and twenty**
33 **semester hours of college credit for degree completion, inclusive of or any**
34 **classroom observation time or mentorship requirements.**

35 * * *

36 (3) * * *

37 (b) An applicant who has passed all requisite examinations covering pre-
38 professional skills and content knowledge but who does not meet the requirement of
39 Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph may be certified if he completes a post-
40 baccalaureate program as provided in this Subparagraph. **or he may be employed**
41 **as a teacher for a period not to exceed five years in the following manner:**

42 (i) **The state superintendent of education, upon receipt of a signed**
43 **affidavit by the president and superintendent of the school board to which such**
44 **person has applied for employment that there is no other applicant available for**
45 **employment for a specific teaching position who has met the requirements of**
46 **this Section, may issue an emergency teaching permit to such person. Such**
47 **permit shall be in effect for not more than five years.**

48 (ii) **After five years of effective teaching evaluations pursuant to R.S.**
49 **17:3902 and upon a signed affidavit of a superintendent of a school system**
50 **recommending to employ the person for the following school year subject to the**
51 **receipt of a valid Louisiana teaching certificate, the person shall be granted a**
52 **valid standard professional level teaching certificate by the state superintendent**
53 **of education, subject only to passing all provisions of law relative to background**
54 **checks and criminal history review.**

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

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

1 (iii) ~~If the program does not award credit hours, the applicant shall~~
2 ~~demonstrate mastery of competencies as required by the program administrator and~~
3 ~~by the school system in which the applicant completes required clinical practice, and~~
4 ~~satisfactorily completes all program requirements as set forth by the state board,~~
5 ~~including any requirements for clinical practice, at graduation.~~

6 * * *

7 B.(1) ~~After August 15, 1986, except as otherwise provided in Paragraph (2)~~
8 ~~of this Subsection, any **Any** persons applying for initial certification as a principal~~
9 ~~or vice, assistant, or deputy principal, hereafter referred to as a principal, in addition~~
10 ~~to any other requirements of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary~~
11 ~~Education, shall have passed the administrative portion of the **National Teachers**~~
12 ~~Examination produced by the Educational Testing Service **educational leadership**~~
13 ~~**exam adopted by and** at a level determined by the State Board of Elementary and~~
14 ~~Secondary Education not later than August 1, 1986, which determination shall be~~
15 ~~based on a validation study to be completed by the board no later than July 31, 1986.~~
16 ~~The validation study shall be submitted to the Joint Committee on Education for its~~
17 ~~review prior to adoption of a passage score.~~

18 * * *

19 §7.2. Approved teacher education programs

20 A. In carrying out its responsibility to prescribe the qualifications and provide
21 for the certification of teachers under authority of R.S. 17:7(6), the State Board of
22 Elementary and Secondary Education, subject to the constitutional power and
23 authority of the Board of Regents, the Board of Supervisors for the University of
24 Louisiana System, the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and
25 Agricultural and Mechanical College, and the Board of Supervisors of Southern
26 University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, shall establish qualifications
27 and requirements for the approval of teacher education programs from which
28 graduates may be certified. The qualifications and requirements established by the
29 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for an approved teacher
30 education program shall include but not be limited to the following:

31 * * *

32 **(7) Beginning with the 2024-2025 academic year, that an approved**
33 **teacher education program shall be no more than one hundred and twenty**
34 **semester hours of college credit for degree completion, inclusive of or any**
35 **classroom observation time or mentorship requirements.**"

36 AMENDMENT NO. 4

37 On page 9, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following:

38 "Section 2. R.S. 17:7.1(A)(7) and 7.2(A)(4) are hereby repealed."

39 AMENDMENT NO. 5

40 On page 9, line 6, change "Section 2." to "Section 3."