HLS 19RS-2613 ENGROSSED

2019 Regular Session

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HOUSE BILL NO. 620 (Substitute for House Bill No. 310 by Representative McMahen)
BY REPRESENTATIVE MCMAHEN

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

TEACHERS/CERTIFICATION: Provides relative to requirements for teacher certification

AN ACT

2	To amend and reenact R.S. 17:7.1(A)(3), relative to teacher certification; to provide with
3	respect to entrance requirements into and completion of a teacher education program
4	for such certification; and to provide for related matters.
5	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
6	Section 1. R.S. 17:7.1(A)(3) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
7	§7.1. Certification of teachers; certification of principals and superintendents;
8	certification of school psychologists
9	A.
10	* * *
11	(3)(a) That the applicant shall have achieved a 2.50 average on a 4.00 scale
12	at graduation from an approved program.
13	(b) An applicant who has passed all requisite examinations covering pre-
14	professional skills and content knowledge but who does not meet the requirement of
15	Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph may be certified if he completes a post-
16	baccalaureate program as provided in this Subparagraph.
17	(i) Such an applicant for admission to a post-baccalaureate program may be
18	granted conditional admission following a satisfactory personal interview by the
19	program's admissions officer.

1 (ii) If the program awards credit hours, the applicant must achieve a grade 2 point average of 3.00 or higher in post-baccalaureate program courses by the end of 3 his first twelve credit hours and successfully complete the program. (iii) If the program does not award credit hours, the applicant shall 4 demonstrate mastery of competencies as required by the program administrator and 5 6 by the school system in which the applicant completes required clinical practice, and 7 satisfactorily complete all program requirements as set forth by the state board, 8 including any requirements for clinical practice, at graduation. 9 10 Section 2. The state Department of Education shall develop and disseminate to all 11 post-baccalaureate programs, not later than August 1, 2019, an interview protocol and 12 guidance document to assist in assessing an applicant's readiness to successfully complete 13 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 620 Engrossed

2019 Regular Session

McMahen

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.

<u>Present law</u> provides relative to certification of teachers, principals, superintendents, and school psychologists.

<u>Present law</u> 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.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> 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:

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

(1) If the student attends a program which awards credit hours and grades, requires at least a 3.0 grade point average 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 award credit hours or grades, requires demonstration of mastery of competencies required by the program administrator and the school system in which the applicant completes clinical practice and completion of program requirements as set forth by the state board.

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