
ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 206—ASSEMBLYMAN MABEY

MARCH 14, 2005

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Provides for issuance of special license for persons with certain graduate degrees and work experience to teach pupils in public schools. (BDR 34-996)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets **[omitted-material]** is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; providing for the issuance of a special license for persons with certain graduate degrees and work experience to teach pupils in public schools; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Existing law establishes the kinds of licenses required for teachers and other
2 educational personnel. The existing licenses are a license to teach elementary
3 education, a license to teach middle school or junior high school, a license to teach
4 secondary school and a special license. (NRS 391.031) The Commission on
5 Professional Standards in Education is required to prescribe the qualifications and
6 requirements for licensure. (NRS 391.019)

7 This bill establishes a new special license designated as a special qualifications
8 license for an applicant with a master's degree or doctoral degree and work
9 experience in the field for which the applicant will provide instruction. The new
10 license must designate the grades and subject areas in which the person may teach.
11 The Commission is required to adopt regulations providing for the issuance and
12 renewal of the special qualifications license. A board of trustees of a school district
13 or the governing body of a charter school that employs a person with a special
14 qualifications license must assign a mentor teacher for the first 3 years of the
15 teacher's employment under the special license.



THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 391 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

If the board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter school employs a teacher who holds a special qualifications license, the board of trustees or the governing body, as applicable, shall assign at least one licensed teacher whom the board of trustees or the governing body determines is qualified to serve as a mentor for the first 3 years of the teacher's employment with the school district or charter school under the special qualifications license.

Sec. 2. NRS 391.019 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.019 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027, the Commission:

(a) Shall adopt regulations:

(1) Prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and other educational personnel, including, without limitation, the qualifications for a license to teach middle school or junior high school education, and the procedures for the issuance and renewal of such licenses.

(2) Identifying fields of specialization in teaching which require the specialized training of teachers.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.125, requiring teachers to obtain from the Department an endorsement in a field of specialization to be eligible to teach in that field of specialization.

(4) Setting forth the educational requirements a teacher must satisfy to qualify for an endorsement in each field of specialization.

(5) Setting forth the qualifications and requirements for obtaining a license or endorsement to teach American Sign Language, including, without limitation, being qualified to engage in the practice of interpreting pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 656A.100.

(6) Except as otherwise authorized by subsection 4 of NRS 656A.100, requiring teachers and other educational personnel to satisfy the qualifications set forth in subsection 3 of NRS 656A.100 if they:

(I) Provide instruction or other educational services; and

(II) Concurrently engage in the practice of interpreting, as defined in NRS 656A.060.

(7) Providing for the issuance and renewal of a special qualifications license to an applicant who holds a master's degree or a doctoral degree from an accredited degree-granting



1 *postsecondary educational institution in a field for which the*
2 *applicant will provide instruction in a classroom and who has:*

3 (I) *At least 2 years of experience teaching at an*
4 *accredited degree-granting postsecondary educational institution*
5 *in a field for which the applicant will provide instruction in a*
6 *classroom and at least 3 years of experience working in that field;*
7 *or*

8 (II) *At least 5 years of experience working in a field for*
9 *which the applicant will provide instruction in a classroom.*

10 ➤ *An applicant for licensure pursuant to this subparagraph is*
11 *exempt from the examinations required by NRS 391.021.*

12 (8) *Setting forth the subject areas that may be taught by a*
13 *person who holds a special qualifications license, based upon the*
14 *subject area of the master's degree or doctoral degree held by that*
15 *person.*

16 (b) May adopt such other regulations as it deems necessary for
17 its own government or to carry out its duties.

18 2. Any regulation which increases the amount of education,
19 training or experience required for licensing:

20 (a) Must, in addition to the requirements for publication in
21 chapter 233B of NRS, be publicized before its adoption in a manner
22 reasonably calculated to inform those persons affected by the
23 change.

24 (b) Must not become effective until at least 1 year after the date
25 it is adopted by the Commission.

26 (c) Is not applicable to a license in effect on the date the
27 regulation becomes effective.

28 **Sec. 3.** NRS 391.021 is hereby amended to read as follows:

29 391.021 Except as otherwise provided in *subparagraph (7) of*
30 *paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 391.019 and* NRS 391.027,
31 the Commission shall adopt regulations governing examinations for
32 the initial licensing of teachers and other educational personnel. The
33 examinations must test the ability of the applicant to teach and his
34 knowledge of each specific subject he proposes to teach. Each
35 examination must include the following subjects:

- 36 1. The laws of Nevada relating to schools;
- 37 2. The Constitution of the State of Nevada; and
- 38 3. The Constitution of the United States.

39 ➤ The provisions of this section do not prohibit the Commission
40 from adopting regulations pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 391.032
41 that provide an exemption from the examinations for teachers and
42 other educational personnel who have previous experience in
43 teaching or performing other educational functions in another state.



Sec. 4. NRS 391.031 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.031 There are the following kinds of licenses for teachers and other educational personnel in this State:

1. A license to teach elementary education, which authorizes the holder to teach in any elementary school in the State.

2. A license to teach middle school or junior high school education, which authorizes the holder to teach in his major or minor field of preparation or in both fields in grades 7, 8 and 9 at any middle school or junior high school. He may teach only in these fields unless an exception is approved pursuant to regulations adopted by the Commission.

3. A license to teach secondary education, which authorizes the holder to teach in his major or minor field of preparation or in both fields in any secondary school. He may teach only in these fields unless an exception is approved pursuant to regulations adopted by the Commission.

4. A special license, which authorizes the holder to teach or perform other educational functions in a school or program as designated in the license.

5. A special license designated as a special qualifications license, which authorizes the holder to teach only in the grades and subject areas designated in the license. A special qualifications license is valid for 3 years and may be renewed in accordance with the regulations of the Commission adopted pursuant to subparagraph (7) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 391.019.

Sec. 5. NRS 391.037 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.037 1. The State Board shall:

(a) Prescribe by regulation the standards for approval of a course of study or training offered by an educational institution to qualify a person to be a teacher or administrator or to perform other educational functions.

(b) Maintain descriptions of the approved courses of study required to qualify for endorsements in fields of specialization and provide to an applicant, upon request, the approved course of study for a particular endorsement.

2. ~~Every~~ *Except for an applicant for the issuance of a special qualifications license, each* applicant for a license as a teacher or administrator or to perform some other educational function must submit with his application, in the form prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, proof that he has satisfactorily completed a course of study and training approved by the State Board ~~H~~ *pursuant to subsection 1.*



1 **Sec. 6.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2005.



