

SENATE BILL NO. 352—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

MARCH 25, 2021

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to education.
(BDR 34-843)

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; requiring the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to adopt regulations related to paraprofessionals and to student teaching; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Existing law requires the Commission on Professional Standards in Education
2 to adopt regulations relating to the qualifications to obtain a license to teach in this
3 State. (NRS 391.019) This bill requires the Commission to adopt regulations that:
4 (1) allow a person who is currently employed as a paraprofessional and enrolled in
5 a program to become a teacher to complete an accelerated program of student
6 teaching in the area in which the person is currently employed as a
7 paraprofessional; and (2) require the Department of Education to accept a student
8 teaching experience completed in another state or a foreign country if the
9 Department determines that experience substantially fulfills the requirements of a
10 program of student teaching in this State.

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

1 **Section 1.** NRS 391.019 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 391.019 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027,
3 the Commission shall adopt regulations:
4 (a) Prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and other
5 educational personnel and the procedures for the issuance and
6 renewal of those licenses. The regulations:
7 (1) Must include, without limitation, the qualifications for
8 licensing teachers and administrators pursuant to an alternative route



1 to licensure which provides that the required education and training
2 may be provided by any qualified provider which has been approved
3 by the Commission, including, without limitation, institutions of
4 higher education and other providers that operate independently of
5 an institution of higher education. The regulations adopted pursuant
6 to this subparagraph must:

7 (I) Establish the requirements for approval as a qualified
8 provider;

9 (II) Require a qualified provider to be selective in its
10 acceptance of students;

11 (III) Require a qualified provider to provide in-person or
12 virtual supervised, school-based experiences and ongoing support
13 for its students, such as mentoring and coaching;

14 (IV) Significantly limit the amount of course work
15 required or provide for the waiver of required course work for
16 students who achieve certain scores on tests;

17 (V) Allow for the completion in 2 years or less of the
18 education and training required under the alternative route to
19 licensure;

20 (VI) Provide that a person who has completed the
21 education and training required under the alternative route to
22 licensure and who has satisfied all other requirements for licensure
23 may apply for a regular license pursuant to sub-subparagraph (VII)
24 regardless of whether the person has received an offer of
25 employment from a school district, charter school or private school;
26 and

27 (VII) Upon the completion by a person of the education
28 and training required under the alternative route to licensure and the
29 satisfaction of all other requirements for licensure, provide for the
30 issuance of a regular license to the person pursuant to the provisions
31 of this chapter and the regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter.

32 (2) Must require an applicant for a license to teach middle
33 school or junior high school education or secondary education to
34 demonstrate proficiency in a field of specialization or area of
35 concentration by successfully completing course work prescribed by
36 the Department or completing a subject matter competency
37 examination prescribed by the Department with a score deemed
38 satisfactory.

39 (3) Must not prescribe qualifications which are more
40 stringent than the qualifications set forth in NRS 391.0315 for a
41 licensed teacher who applies for an additional license in accordance
42 with that section.

43 (b) Identifying fields of specialization in teaching which require
44 the specialized training of teachers.



(c) 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.

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

(e) Setting forth the qualifications and requirements for obtaining a license or endorsement to teach American Sign Language, including, without limitation, being registered with the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to NRS 656A.100 to engage in the practice of interpreting in an educational setting.

(f) Requiring teachers and other educational personnel to be registered with the Aging and Disability Services Division pursuant to NRS 656A.100 to engage in the practice of interpreting in an educational setting if they:

(1) Provide instruction or other educational services; and

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

(g) Prescribing course work on parental involvement and family engagement. The Commission shall work in cooperation with the Office of Parental Involvement and Family Engagement created by NRS 385.630 in developing the regulations required by this paragraph.

(h) Establishing the requirements for obtaining an endorsement on the license of a teacher, administrator or other educational personnel in cultural competency.

(i) Authorizing the Superintendent of Public Instruction to issue a license by endorsement to an applicant who holds an equivalent license or authorization issued by a governmental entity in another country if the Superintendent determines that the qualifications for the equivalent license or authorization are substantially similar to those prescribed pursuant to paragraph (a).

(j) Establishing the requirements for obtaining an endorsement on the license of a teacher, administrator or other educational personnel in teaching courses relating to financial literacy.

(k) Authorizing a person who is employed as a paraprofessional and enrolled in a program to become a teacher to complete an accelerated program of student teaching in the same or a substantially similar area in which the person is employed as a paraprofessional while remaining employed as a paraprofessional.

(l) Requiring the Department to accept a program of student teaching or other teaching experience completed in another state or foreign country by an applicant for a license if the Department



determines that the program or experience substantially fulfills the standards of a program of student teaching in this State.

2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027, the Commission may adopt such other regulations as it deems necessary for its own government or to carry out its duties.

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

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

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

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

Sec. 2. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2021.

