

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 182—ASSEMBLYWOMEN BRITTNEY MILLER,
ANDERSON AND LA RUE HATCH

FEBRUARY 16, 2023

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing educational personnel.
(BDR 34-121)

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 a person to hold a baccalaureate degree before obtaining certain licenses to teach or enrolling in an alternative route to licensure; requiring a person who holds an endorsement in certain fields of specialization to teach only in such a field; adding a license to serve as a substitute teacher as a kind of teaching license; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to adopt regulations prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and other educational personnel, including, without limitation, qualifications for licensure pursuant to an alternative route to licensure and for obtaining an endorsement in a field of specialization. (NRS 391.019) Existing law sets forth the kinds of licenses available to teachers and other educational personnel in this State. (NRS 391.031) **Section 5** of this bill adds a license to serve as a substitute teacher to the kinds of licenses available. **Section 4** of this bill requires the Commission to adopt regulations that require a person to obtain a baccalaureate degree before participating in a program for an alternative route to licensure. **Section 2** of this bill prohibits a person from obtaining a license to teach, except a license to serve as a substitute teacher under certain circumstances, without first obtaining a baccalaureate degree.

Existing law authorizes the board of trustees of a school district to employ a person who does not hold an endorsement to teach in the subject area for which the person is teaching if there is a shortage of teachers at a public school within the district. (NRS 391.125) **Section 3** of this bill requires a person who holds only an endorsement in a field of specialization relating to career and technical education to teach only in that field. **Section 6** of this bill makes a conforming change related to



20 the employment of persons who hold endorsements in subject areas at a school in
21 which there is a shortage of teachers.

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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 391 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this act.

3 **Sec. 2. 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a**
4 **person must hold a baccalaureate degree to obtain a license**
5 **described in NRS 391.031.**

6 **2. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may issue an**
7 **endorsement or license to serve as a substitute teacher to a person**
8 **who does not hold a baccalaureate degree if the person meets all**
9 **other requirements prescribed by the Commission to obtain an**
10 **endorsement or license to serve as substitute teacher.**

11 **Sec. 3. A person who holds an endorsement in a field of**
12 **specialization relating to career and technical education but no**
13 **endorsement in any other field of specialization may only teach in**
14 **a public school in the field of specialization for which the person**
15 **holds an endorsement.**

16 **Sec. 4.** NRS 391.019 is hereby amended to read as follows:
17 391.019 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027,
18 the Commission shall adopt regulations:

19 (a) Prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and other
20 educational personnel and the procedures for the issuance and
21 renewal of those licenses. The regulations:

22 (1) Must include, without limitation, the qualifications for
23 licensing teachers and administrators pursuant to an alternative route
24 to licensure which provides that the required education and training
25 may be provided by any qualified provider which has been approved
26 by the Commission, including, without limitation, institutions of
27 higher education and other providers that operate independently of
28 an institution of higher education. The regulations adopted pursuant
29 to this subparagraph must:

30 (I) Establish the requirements for approval as a qualified
31 provider;

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

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

37 (IV) Significantly limit the amount of course work
38 required or provide for the waiver of required course work for
39 students who achieve certain scores on tests;



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

(VI) Require a person to obtain a baccalaureate degree before participating in a program for an alternative route to licensure;

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

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

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

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

(b) Identifying fields of specialization in teaching which require 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 sign language interpreting in a primary or secondary 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 sign language interpreting in a primary or secondary educational setting if they:

(1) Provide instruction or other educational services; and
(2) Concurrently engage in the practice of sign language 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.

(m) Authorizing a person who is employed by a public school to provide support or other services relating to school psychology, if the person does not hold a license or endorsement as a school psychologist but is enrolled in a program that would allow the person to obtain such a license or endorsement, to complete a program of internship in school psychology while remaining employed in such a position.

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. 5. 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 pupils in a program of early childhood education, which authorizes the holder to teach in any program of early childhood education in the State.

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

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

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

5. A license to teach special education, which authorizes the holder to teach pupils with disabilities or gifted and talented pupils, or both.

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

7. A license to serve as a substitute teacher.

Sec. 6. NRS 391.125 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.125 1. ~~§~~ ***Except as otherwise provided by section 3 of this act, if*** the board of trustees of a school district determines that a shortage of teachers exists within the school district in a particular subject area, the board of trustees may, on or before September 1 of the school year in which such a determination is made, submit a written request to the Superintendent of Public Instruction to employ persons who are licensed teachers but who do not hold an endorsement to teach in the subject area for which there is a



1 shortage of teachers at a public school within the school district. The
2 Superintendent of Public Instruction may grant such a request if the
3 Superintendent determines that a shortage of teachers exists in
4 the subject area. If the Superintendent of Public Instruction grants a
5 request pursuant to this subsection, a person who holds a license to
6 teach but not an endorsement in the subject area for which the
7 request was granted may be employed by the school district for not
8 more than 3 school years to teach in that subject area at a public
9 school within the school district.

10 2. If the Superintendent of Public Instruction grants a request
11 pursuant to subsection 1, the Superintendent shall submit a written
12 report to the Commission and the State Board that includes the name
13 of the school district for which the request was granted and the
14 subject area for which the request was granted. Upon receipt of such
15 a report, the Commission and the State Board shall consider whether
16 to adopt revisions to the requirements for an endorsement in that
17 subject area to address the shortage of teachers.

18 **Sec. 7.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.

