
SENATE BILL NO. 35—COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION (NRS 218.5352))

PREFILED JANUARY 30, 2003

Referred to Committee on Human Resources and Facilities

SUMMARY—Provides for alternate route to teacher licensure.
(BDR 34-637)

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 educational personnel; requiring the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to adopt regulations that provide for an alternate route to a teacher's license for persons with certain qualifications; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt regulations prescribing the courses of study and training for such persons; requiring boards of trustees of school districts and governing bodies of charter schools to assign mentors to persons who are licensed through an alternate route and employed as teachers; providing for expiration of a license obtained through an alternate route if a person does not satisfy certain requirements; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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, 3 and 4 of this act.

3 **Sec. 2.** *A person who is licensed pursuant to the regulations*
4 *adopted by the Commission in accordance with subparagraph (6)*
5 *of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 391.019:*



* S B 3 5 *

1 *1. May be licensed to teach elementary or secondary*
2 *education, as set forth in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 1 of*
3 *NRS 391.031.*

4 *2. Shall comply with all applicable statutes and regulations.*

5 *3. Except as otherwise provided by specific statute, is entitled*
6 *to all benefits, rights and privileges conferred by statutes and*
7 *regulations on licensed teachers.*

8 *4. Except as otherwise provided by specific statute, if he is*
9 *employed as a teacher by the board of trustees of a school district*
10 *or the governing body of a charter school, is entitled to all*
11 *benefits, rights and privileges conferred by statutes and*
12 *regulations on the licensed employees of a school district or a*
13 *charter school, as applicable.*

14 **Sec. 3. 1.** *The State Board shall prescribe by regulation the*
15 *contents of:*

16 *(a) An intensive course of study and training in the principles*
17 *and methods of teaching and classroom management which the*
18 *State Board determines will provide sufficient preparation for a*
19 *person who desires to obtain a license pursuant to the regulations*
20 *adopted by the Commission in accordance with subparagraph (6)*
21 *of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 391.019; and*

22 *(b) A brief course of study and training in advanced principles*
23 *and methods of teaching and classroom management which is*
24 *designed to enhance the course completed pursuant to paragraph*
25 *(a) and is to be taken in the year after the initial year of teaching.*
26 *The course may not require more than 2 consecutive weeks of*
27 *instruction.*

28 *2. Each person who desires to obtain a license pursuant to*
29 *the regulations adopted by the Commission in accordance with*
30 *subparagraph (6) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 391.019*
31 *must submit with his application, in the form prescribed by the*
32 *Superintendent of Public Instruction, proof that he has*
33 *satisfactorily completed a course of study and training that*
34 *satisfies the requirements of the State Board adopted pursuant to*
35 *paragraph (a) of subsection 1.*

36 *3. Each person who desires to maintain a license issued*
37 *pursuant to the regulations adopted by the Commission in*
38 *accordance with subparagraph (6) of paragraph (a) of subsection*
39 *1 of NRS 391.019 must submit, in the form prescribed by the*
40 *Superintendent of Public Instruction, proof that he has*
41 *satisfactorily completed:*

42 *(a) A course of study and training that satisfies the*
43 *requirements of the State Board adopted pursuant to paragraph*
44 *(b) of subsection 1; and*



1 **(b) One year of employment as a teacher with a school district**
2 **or charter school.**

3 **4. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the proof**
4 **required by subsection 3 must be submitted not later than 15**
5 **months after the date on which the initial license was issued. The**
6 **Superintendent of Public Instruction may, for good cause shown,**
7 **grant one reasonable extension of time for a licensee to submit the**
8 **proof required by paragraph (a) of subsection 3 if the licensee**
9 **requests an extension before the date on which the submission of**
10 **proof is otherwise required.**

11 **5. If a licensee submits the proof required pursuant to**
12 **subsection 3 within the time prescribed in subsection 4 or, if an**
13 **extension was granted pursuant to subsection 4, within the time**
14 **prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the**
15 **notation on his license indicating that the license was obtained**
16 **through an alternate route must be removed. If a licensee does not**
17 **submit the proof required pursuant to subsection 3 within the time**
18 **prescribed in subsection 4 or, if an extension was granted**
19 **pursuant to subsection 4, within the time prescribed by the**
20 **Superintendent of Public Instruction, his license shall be deemed**
21 **expired and the procedures for revocation of a license do not**
22 **apply.**

23 **Sec. 4. If the board of trustees of a school district or the**
24 **governing body of a charter school employs a teacher who is**
25 **licensed pursuant to the regulations adopted by the Commission in**
26 **accordance with subparagraph (6) of paragraph (a) of subsection**
27 **1 of NRS 391.019, the board of trustees or the governing body, as**
28 **applicable:**

29 **1. Shall assign at least one licensed teacher whom the board**
30 **of trustees or the governing body determines is qualified to serve**
31 **as a mentor to the teacher who is licensed through the alternate**
32 **route for his first year of employment with the school district or**
33 **charter school.**

34 **2. May not require the teacher who is licensed through the**
35 **alternate route to complete a probationary period that is more than**
36 **the period set forth in NRS 391.3197.**

37 **Sec. 5. NRS 391.019 is hereby amended to read as follows:**
38 391.019 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027,
39 the Commission:

40 (a) Shall adopt regulations:

41 (1) Prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and
42 other educational personnel and the procedures for the issuance and
43 renewal of such licenses.

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



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

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

6 (5) Setting forth the qualifications and requirements for
7 obtaining a license or endorsement to teach American Sign
8 Language.

9 *(6) Prescribing the qualifications for licensing as teachers*
10 *persons who hold at least a bachelor's degree in a field other than*
11 *education from an accredited college or university and the*
12 *procedures for the issuance and renewal of such licenses. The*
13 *regulations adopted pursuant to this subparagraph must require a*
14 *person to:*

15 *(I) Complete a course that complies with the standards*
16 *established pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of section 3*
17 *of this act for initial licensure;*

18 *(II) Pass all the examinations required for initial*
19 *licensure as a teacher pursuant to this chapter; and*

20 *(III) Complete a course that complies with the standards*
21 *established pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of section 3*
22 *of this act and satisfactorily complete 1 year of employment as a*
23 *teacher with a school district or charter school to maintain his*
24 *license.*

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

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

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

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

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

37 **Sec. 6.** NRS 391.019 is hereby amended to read as follows:

38 391.019 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027,
39 the Commission:

40 (a) Shall adopt regulations:

41 (1) Prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and
42 other educational personnel and the procedures for the issuance and
43 renewal of such licenses.

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



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

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

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

11 (6) *Prescribing the qualifications for licensing as teachers*
12 *persons who hold at least a bachelor's degree in a field other than*
13 *education from an accredited college or university and the*
14 *procedures for the issuance and renewal of such licenses. The*
15 *regulations adopted pursuant to this subparagraph must require a*
16 *person to:*

17 (I) *Complete a course that complies with the standards*
18 *established pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of section 3*
19 *of this act for initial licensure;*

20 (II) *Pass all the examinations required for initial*
21 *licensure as a teacher pursuant to this chapter; and*

22 (III) *Complete a course that complies with the standards*
23 *established pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of section 3*
24 *of this act and satisfactorily complete 1 year of employment as a*
25 *teacher with a school district or charter school to maintain his*
26 *license.*

27 (7) Except as otherwise authorized by subsection 4 of NRS
28 656A.100, requiring teachers and other educational personnel to
29 satisfy the qualifications set forth in subsection 3 of NRS 656A.100
30 if they:

31 (I) Provide instruction or other educational services; and

32 (II) Concurrently engage in the practice of interpreting, as
33 defined in NRS 656A.040.

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

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

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

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

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



1 **Sec. 7.** NRS 391.031 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 391.031 **1.** There are the following kinds of licenses for
3 teachers and other educational personnel in this state:

4 ~~[1-]~~ **(a)** A license to teach elementary education, which
5 authorizes the holder to teach in any elementary school in the State.

6 ~~[2-]~~ **(b)** A license to teach secondary education, which
7 authorizes the holder to teach in his major or minor field of
8 preparation or in both fields in any secondary school. He may teach
9 only in these fields unless an exception is approved pursuant to
10 regulations adopted by the Commission.

11 ~~[3-]~~ **(c)** A special license, which authorizes the holder to teach
12 or perform other educational functions in a school or program as
13 designated in the license.

14 **2.** *A license issued to a person pursuant to the regulations
15 adopted by the Commission in accordance with subparagraph (6)
16 of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 391.019 must, for the first
17 year of licensure, contain a notation that the license is issued
18 pursuant to those regulations. If the licensee fulfills the
19 requirements of subsection 3 of section 3 of this act, he must be
20 issued a license that:*

21 **(a)** *Is identical to a license issued pursuant to paragraph (a) or
22 (b) of subsection 1, as applicable; and*

23 **(b)** *Does not contain a notation which indicates that the
24 license was obtained through an alternate route in a prior year.*

25 **Sec. 8.** NRS 391.033 is hereby amended to read as follows:

26 391.033 **1.** All licenses for teachers and other educational
27 personnel are granted by the Superintendent of Public Instruction
28 pursuant to regulations adopted by the Commission and as
29 otherwise provided by law.

30 **2.** An application for the issuance of a license must include the
31 social security number of the applicant.

32 **3.** *An application for the issuance of a license pursuant to the
33 regulations adopted by the Commission in accordance with
34 subparagraph (6) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 391.019
35 must include a notation that the applicant is applying pursuant to
36 those regulations.*

37 **4.** Every applicant for a license must submit with his
38 application a complete set of his fingerprints and written permission
39 authorizing the Superintendent to forward the fingerprints to the
40 Federal Bureau of Investigation and to the Central Repository for
41 Nevada Records of Criminal History for their reports on the
42 criminal history of the applicant.

43 ~~[4-]~~ **5.** The Superintendent may issue a provisional license
44 pending receipt of the reports of the Federal Bureau of Investigation



1 and the Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History
2 if he determines that the applicant is otherwise qualified.

3 ~~5.~~ 6. A license must be issued to an applicant if:

4 (a) The Superintendent determines that the applicant is
5 qualified;

6 (b) The reports on the criminal history of the applicant from the
7 Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Central Repository for
8 Nevada Records of Criminal History:

9 (1) Do not indicate that the applicant has been convicted of a
10 felony or any offense involving moral turpitude; or

11 (2) Indicate that the applicant has been convicted of a felony
12 or an offense involving moral turpitude but the Superintendent
13 determines that the conviction is unrelated to the position within the
14 county school district for which the applicant applied; and

15 (c) The applicant submits the statement required pursuant to
16 NRS 391.034.

17 **Sec. 9.** NRS 391.037 is hereby amended to read as follows:

18 391.037 1. The State Board shall:

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

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

27 2. ~~Every~~ *Except as otherwise provided in section 3 of this*
28 *act, each* applicant for a license as a teacher or administrator or to
29 perform some other educational function must submit with his
30 application, in the form prescribed by the Superintendent of Public
31 Instruction, proof that he has satisfactorily completed a course of
32 study and training approved by the State Board ~~is~~ *pursuant to*
33 *subsection 1.*

34 **Sec. 10.** NRS 391.038 is hereby amended to read as follows:

35 391.038 1. The State Board, in consultation with educational
36 institutions in this state which offer courses of study and training for
37 the education of teachers, the board of trustees of each school
38 district in this state and other educational personnel, shall review
39 and evaluate a course of study and training offered by an
40 educational institution which is designed to provide the education
41 required for:

42 (a) The licensure of teachers or other educational personnel;

43 (b) The renewal of licenses of teachers or other educational
44 personnel; or

45 (c) An endorsement in a field of specialization.



1 If the course of study and training meets the requirements
2 established by the State Board, it must be approved by the State
3 Board. The State Board shall not approve a course of study ~~for~~ and
4 training unless the course of study and training provides instruction,
5 to the extent deemed necessary by the State Board, in the standards
6 of content and performance prescribed by the Council to Establish
7 Academic Standards for Public Schools pursuant to NRS 389.520.

8 2. The State Board may review and evaluate such courses of
9 study and training itself or may recognize a course of study and
10 training approved by a national agency for accreditation acceptable
11 to the Board.

12 3. The State Board shall adopt regulations establishing fees for
13 the review by the Board of a course of study and training submitted
14 to the Board by an educational institution.

15 4. The State Board, in consultation with educational
16 institutions in this state which offer courses of study and training for
17 the education of teachers and other educational personnel, and the
18 Nevada Association of Colleges for Teacher Education and the
19 Nevada Association of Teacher Educators, shall adopt regulations
20 governing the approval by the State Board of courses of study and
21 training which are accredited by the National Council for
22 Accreditation of Teacher Education, and those which are not so
23 accredited.

24 5. If the State Board denies or withdraws its approval of a
25 course of study or training, the educational institution is entitled to a
26 hearing and judicial review of the decision of the State Board.

27 *6. The provisions of this section do not apply to a course of*
28 *study and training prescribed by the State Board pursuant to*
29 *section 3 of this act.*

30 **Sec. 11.** 1. On or before January 1, 2004, the Commission on
31 Professional Standards in Education shall adopt regulations pursuant
32 to section 5 of this act.

33 2. On or before January 1, 2004, the State Board of Education
34 shall adopt regulations pursuant to section 3 of this act.

35 **Sec. 12.** 1. This section and sections 1 and 11 of this act
36 become effective on July 1, 2003.

37 2. Section 3 of this act becomes effective on July 1, 2003, for
38 the purpose of adopting regulations and on January 1, 2004, for all
39 other purposes.

40 3. Section 5 of this act:

41 (a) Becomes effective on July 1, 2003, for the purpose of
42 adopting regulations and on January 1, 2004, for all other purposes.

43 (b) Expires by limitation on June 30, 2005.

44 4. Sections 2, 4 and 7 to 10, inclusive, of this act become
45 effective on January 1, 2004.



1 5. Section 6 of this act becomes effective at 12:01 a.m. on
2 July 1, 2005.

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