

# HB5754



## 100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2017 and 2018

**HB5754**

by Rep. Natalie Phelps Finnie

### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/21B-25

Amends the School Code. Provides that a principal endorsement shall be affixed to a Professional Educator License of any holder who, in addition to other requirements in the Code, has at least 4 total years of teaching or 4 total years of working in the capacity of school support personnel in a school under the supervision of the Illinois Department of Corrections (or in combination with other permitted schools).

LRB100 15102 AXK 29951 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section  
5 21B-25 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-25)

7 Sec. 21B-25. Endorsement on licenses. All licenses issued  
8 under paragraph (1) of Section 21B-20 of this Code shall be  
9 specifically endorsed by the State Board of Education for each  
10 content area, school support area, and administrative area for  
11 which the holder of the license is qualified. Recognized  
12 institutions approved to offer educator preparation programs  
13 shall be trained to add endorsements to licenses issued to  
14 applicants who meet all of the requirements for the endorsement  
15 or endorsements, including passing any required tests. The  
16 State Superintendent of Education shall randomly audit  
17 institutions to ensure that all rules and standards are being  
18 followed for entitlement or when endorsements are being  
19 recommended.

20 (1) The State Board of Education, in consultation with  
21 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall  
22 establish, by rule, the grade level and subject area  
23 endorsements to be added to the Professional Educator

1 License. These rules shall outline the requirements for  
2 obtaining each endorsement.

3 (2) In addition to any and all grade level and content  
4 area endorsements developed by rule, the State Board of  
5 Education, in consultation with the State Educator  
6 Preparation and Licensure Board, shall develop the  
7 requirements for the following endorsements:

8 (A) General administrative endorsement. A general  
9 administrative endorsement shall be added to a  
10 Professional Educator License, provided that an  
11 approved program has been completed. An individual  
12 holding a general administrative endorsement may work  
13 only as a principal or assistant principal or in a  
14 related or similar position, as determined by the State  
15 Superintendent of Education, in consultation with the  
16 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

17 Beginning on September 1, 2014, the general  
18 administrative endorsement shall no longer be issued  
19 except to individuals who completed all coursework  
20 requirements for the receipt of the general  
21 administrative endorsement by September 1, 2014, who  
22 have completed all testing requirements by June 30,  
23 2016, and who apply for the endorsement on or before  
24 June 30, 2016. Individuals who hold a valid and  
25 registered administrative certificate with a general  
26 administrative endorsement issued under Section 21-7.1

1 of this Code or a Professional Educator License with a  
2 general administrative endorsement issued prior to  
3 September 1, 2014 and who have served for at least one  
4 full year during the 5 years prior in a position  
5 requiring a general administrative endorsement shall,  
6 upon request to the State Board of Education and  
7 through July 1, 2015, have their respective general  
8 administrative endorsement converted to a principal  
9 endorsement on the Professional Educator License.  
10 Candidates shall not be admitted to an approved general  
11 administrative preparation program after September 1,  
12 2012.

13 All other individuals holding a valid and  
14 registered administrative certificate with a general  
15 administrative endorsement issued pursuant to Section  
16 21-7.1 of this Code or a general administrative  
17 endorsement on a Professional Educator License issued  
18 prior to September 1, 2014 shall have the general  
19 administrative endorsement converted to a principal  
20 endorsement on a Professional Educator License upon  
21 request to the State Board of Education and by  
22 completing one of the following pathways:

23 (i) Passage of the State principal assessment  
24 developed by the State Board of Education.

25 (ii) Through July 1, 2019, completion of an  
26 Illinois Educators' Academy course designated by

1 the State Superintendent of Education.

2 (iii) Completion of a principal preparation  
3 program established and approved pursuant to  
4 Section 21B-60 of this Code and applicable rules.

5 Individuals who do not choose to convert the  
6 general administrative endorsement on the  
7 administrative certificate issued pursuant to Section  
8 21-7.1 of this Code or on the Professional Educator  
9 License shall continue to be able to serve in any  
10 position previously allowed under paragraph (2) of  
11 subsection (e) of Section 21-7.1 of this Code.

12 The general administrative endorsement on the  
13 Professional Educator License is available only to  
14 individuals who, prior to September 1, 2014, had such  
15 an endorsement on the administrative certificate  
16 issued pursuant to Section 21-7.1 of this Code or who  
17 already have a Professional Educator License and have  
18 completed a general administrative program and who do  
19 not choose to convert the general administrative  
20 endorsement to a principal endorsement pursuant to the  
21 options in this Section.

22 (B) Principal endorsement. A principal endorsement  
23 shall be affixed to a Professional Educator License of  
24 any holder who qualifies by having all of the  
25 following:

26 (i) Successful completion of a principal

1 preparation program approved in accordance with  
2 Section 21B-60 of this Code and any applicable  
3 rules.

4 (ii) At least 4 total years of teaching or 4  
5 total years of working in the capacity of school  
6 support personnel in an Illinois public school or  
7 nonpublic school recognized by the State Board of  
8 Education, in a school under the supervision of the  
9 Department of Corrections, or in an out-of-state  
10 public school or out-of-state nonpublic school  
11 meeting out-of-state recognition standards  
12 comparable to those approved by the State  
13 Superintendent of Education; however, the State  
14 Board of Education, in consultation with the State  
15 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall  
16 allow, by rules, for fewer than 4 years of  
17 experience based on meeting standards set forth in  
18 such rules, including without limitation a review  
19 of performance evaluations or other evidence of  
20 demonstrated qualifications.

21 (iii) A master's degree or higher from a  
22 regionally accredited college or university.

23 (C) Chief school business official endorsement. A  
24 chief school business official endorsement shall be  
25 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any  
26 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree or

1 higher, 2 years of full-time administrative experience  
2 in school business management or 2 years of  
3 university-approved practical experience, and a  
4 minimum of 24 semester hours of graduate credit in a  
5 program approved by the State Board of Education for  
6 the preparation of school business administrators and  
7 by passage of the applicable State tests. The chief  
8 school business official endorsement may also be  
9 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any  
10 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree in  
11 business administration, finance, accounting, or  
12 public administration and who completes an additional  
13 6 semester hours of internship in school business  
14 management from a regionally accredited institution of  
15 higher education and passes the applicable State  
16 tests. This endorsement shall be required for any  
17 individual employed as a chief school business  
18 official.

19 (D) Superintendent endorsement. A superintendent  
20 endorsement shall be affixed to the Professional  
21 Educator License of any holder who has completed a  
22 program approved by the State Board of Education for  
23 the preparation of superintendents of schools, has had  
24 at least 2 years of experience employed full-time in a  
25 general administrative position or as a full-time  
26 principal, director of special education, or chief

1 school business official in the public schools or in a  
2 State-recognized nonpublic school in which the chief  
3 administrator is required to have the licensure  
4 necessary to be a principal in a public school in this  
5 State and where a majority of the teachers are required  
6 to have the licensure necessary to be instructors in a  
7 public school in this State, and has passed the  
8 required State tests; or of any holder who has  
9 completed a program that is not an Illinois-approved  
10 educator preparation program at an Illinois  
11 institution of higher education and that has  
12 recognition standards comparable to those approved by  
13 the State Superintendent of Education and holds the  
14 general administrative, principal, or chief school  
15 business official endorsement and who has had 2 years  
16 of experience as a principal, director of special  
17 education, or chief school business official while  
18 holding a valid educator license or certificate  
19 comparable in validity and educational and experience  
20 requirements and has passed the appropriate State  
21 tests, as provided in Section 21B-30 of this Code. The  
22 superintendent endorsement shall allow individuals to  
23 serve only as a superintendent or assistant  
24 superintendent.

25 (E) Teacher leader endorsement. It shall be the  
26 policy of this State to improve the quality of



1 instructional leaders by providing a career pathway  
2 for teachers interested in serving in leadership  
3 roles, but not as principals. The State Board of  
4 Education, in consultation with the State Educator  
5 Preparation and Licensure Board, may issue a teacher  
6 leader endorsement under this subdivision (E). Persons  
7 who meet and successfully complete the requirements of  
8 the endorsement shall be issued a teacher leader  
9 endorsement on the Professional Educator License for  
10 serving in schools in this State. Teacher leaders may  
11 qualify to serve in such positions as department  
12 chairs, coaches, mentors, curriculum and instruction  
13 leaders, or other leadership positions as defined by  
14 the district. The endorsement shall be available to  
15 those teachers who (i) hold a Professional Educator  
16 License, (ii) hold a master's degree or higher from a  
17 regionally accredited institution, (iii) have  
18 completed a program of study that has been approved by  
19 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
20 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, and  
21 (iv) have successfully demonstrated competencies as  
22 defined by rule.

23 A teacher who meets the requirements set forth in  
24 this Section and holds a teacher leader endorsement may  
25 evaluate teachers pursuant to Section 24A-5 of this  
26 Code, provided that the individual has completed the

1 evaluation component required by Section 24A-3 of this  
2 Code and a teacher leader is allowed to evaluate  
3 personnel under the respective school district's  
4 collective bargaining agreement.

5 The State Board of Education, in consultation with  
6 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board,  
7 may adopt such rules as may be necessary to establish  
8 and implement the teacher leader endorsement program  
9 and to specify the positions for which this endorsement  
10 shall be required.

11 (F) Special education endorsement. A special  
12 education endorsement in one or more areas shall be  
13 affixed to a Professional Educator License for any  
14 individual that meets those requirements established  
15 by the State Board of Education in rules. Special  
16 education endorsement areas shall include without  
17 limitation the following:

- 18 (i) Learning Behavior Specialist I;
- 19 (ii) Learning Behavior Specialist II;
- 20 (iii) Speech Language Pathologist;
- 21 (iv) Blind or Visually Impaired;
- 22 (v) Deaf-Hard of Hearing;
- 23 (vi) Early Childhood Special Education; and
- 24 (vii) Director of Special Education.

25 Notwithstanding anything in this Code to the contrary,  
26 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the

1 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may  
2 add additional areas of special education by rule.

3 (G) School support personnel endorsement. School  
4 support personnel endorsement areas shall include, but  
5 are not limited to, school counselor, marriage and  
6 family therapist, school psychologist, school speech  
7 and language pathologist, school nurse, and school  
8 social worker. This endorsement is for individuals who  
9 are not teachers or administrators, but still require  
10 licensure to work in an instructional support position  
11 in a public or State-operated elementary school,  
12 secondary school, or cooperative or joint agreement  
13 with a governing body or board of control or a charter  
14 school operating in compliance with the Charter  
15 Schools Law. The school support personnel endorsement  
16 shall be affixed to the Professional Educator License  
17 and shall meet all of the requirements established in  
18 any rules adopted to implement this subdivision (G).  
19 The holder of such an endorsement is entitled to all of  
20 the rights and privileges granted holders of any other  
21 Professional Educator License, including teacher  
22 benefits, compensation, and working conditions.

23 Beginning on January 1, 2014 and ending on April  
24 30, 2014, a person holding a Professional Educator  
25 License with a school speech and language pathologist  
26 (teaching) endorsement may exchange his or her school

1 speech and language pathologist (teaching) endorsement  
2 for a school speech and language pathologist  
3 (non-teaching) endorsement through application to the  
4 State Board of Education. There shall be no cost for  
5 this exchange.

6 (Source: P.A. 99-58, eff. 7-16-15; 99-623, eff. 7-22-16;  
7 99-920, eff. 1-6-17; 100-13, eff. 7-1-17; 100-267, eff.  
8 8-22-17; 100-288, eff. 8-24-17; revised 9-25-17.)