



Rep. Katie Stuart

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LRB103 03823 RJT 59522 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 296

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 296 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing
5 Sections 21B-30 and 21B-50 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-30)

7 Sec. 21B-30. Educator testing.

8 (a) (Blank).

9 (b) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
10 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall design
11 and implement a system of examinations, which shall be
12 required prior to the issuance of educator licenses. These
13 examinations and indicators must be based on national and
14 State professional teaching standards, as determined by the
15 State Board of Education, in consultation with the State
16 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. The State Board of

1 Education may adopt such rules as may be necessary to
2 implement and administer this Section.

3 (c) (Blank).

4 (c-5) The State Board must adopt rules to implement a
5 paraprofessional competency test. This test would allow an
6 applicant seeking an Educator License with Stipulations with a
7 paraprofessional educator endorsement to obtain the
8 endorsement if he or she passes the test and meets the other
9 requirements of subparagraph (J) of paragraph (2) of Section
10 21B-20 other than the higher education requirements.

11 (d) All applicants seeking a State license shall be
12 required to pass a test of content area knowledge for each area
13 of endorsement for which there is an applicable test. There
14 shall be no exception to this requirement. No candidate shall
15 be allowed to student teach or serve as the teacher of record
16 until he or she has passed the applicable content area test.

17 (e) (Blank).

18 (f) Beginning on the effective date of this amendatory Act
19 of the 103rd General Assembly through August 31, 2025, no
20 candidate completing a teacher preparation program in this
21 State or candidate subject to Section 21B-35 of this Code is
22 required to pass a teacher performance assessment. Except as
23 otherwise provided in this Article, beginning on September 1,
24 2015 until the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
25 103rd General Assembly and beginning again on September 1,
26 2025, all candidates completing teacher preparation programs

1 in this State and all candidates subject to Section 21B-35 of
2 this Code are required to pass a teacher performance
3 assessment approved by the State Board of Education, in
4 consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
5 Board. A candidate may not be required to submit test
6 materials by video submission. Subject to appropriation, an
7 individual who holds a Professional Educator License and is
8 employed for a minimum of one school year by a school district
9 designated as Tier 1 under Section 18-8.15 may, after
10 application to the State Board, receive from the State Board a
11 refund for any costs associated with completing the teacher
12 performance assessment under this subsection.

13 (f-5) The Teacher Performance Assessment Task Force is
14 created to evaluate potential teacher performance assessment
15 systems for implementation in this State, with the intention
16 of supporting a thoughtful and well-rounded licensure system
17 that is performance-based and has consistency across programs
18 and objectivity. The Task Force shall consist of all of the
19 following members:

20 (1) One member of the Senate, appointed by the
21 President of the Senate.

22 (2) One member of the Senate, appointed by the
23 Minority Leader of the Senate.

24 (3) One member of the House of Representatives,
25 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

26 (4) One member of the House of Representatives,

1 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
2 Representatives.

3 (5) One member who represents a statewide professional
4 teachers' organization, appointed by the State
5 Superintendent of Education.

6 (6) One member who represents a different statewide
7 professional teachers' organization, appointed by the
8 State Superintendent of Education.

9 (7) One member from a statewide organization
10 representing school principals, appointed by the State
11 Superintendent of Education.

12 (8) One member from a statewide organization
13 representing regional superintendents of schools,
14 appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.

15 (9) One member from a statewide organization
16 representing school business officials, appointed by the
17 State Superintendent of Education.

18 (10) One member representing a school district
19 organized under Article 34 of this Code, appointed by the
20 State Superintendent of Education.

21 (11) One member of an association representing rural
22 and small schools, appointed by the State Superintendent
23 of Education.

24 (12) One member representing a suburban school
25 district, appointed by the State Superintendent of
26 Education.

1 (13) One member from a statewide organization
2 representing school districts in the southern suburbs of
3 the City of Chicago, appointed by the State Superintendent
4 of Education.

5 (14) One member from a statewide organization
6 representing large unit school districts, appointed by the
7 State Superintendent of Education.

8 (15) One member from a statewide organization
9 representing school districts in the collar counties of
10 the City of Chicago, appointed by the State Superintendent
11 of Education.

12 (16) Three members, each representing a different
13 public university in this State, appointed by the State
14 Superintendent of Education.

15 (17) Three members, each representing a different
16 4-year nonpublic university or college in this State,
17 appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.

18 (18) One member of the Board of Higher Education,
19 appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.

20 (19) One member representing a statewide policy
21 organization advocating on behalf of multilingual students
22 and families, appointed by the State Superintendent of
23 Education.

24 (20) One member representing a statewide organization
25 focused on research-based education policy to support a
26 school system that prepares all students for college, a

1 career, and democratic citizenship, appointed by the State
2 Superintendent of Education.

3 (21) Two members representing an early childhood
4 advocacy organization, appointed by the State
5 Superintendent of Education.

6 Members of the Task Force shall serve without
7 compensation. The Task Force shall first meet at the call of
8 the State Superintendent of Education, and each subsequent
9 meeting shall be called by the chairperson of the Task Force,
10 who shall be designated by the State Superintendent of
11 Education. The State Board of Education shall provide
12 administrative and other support to the Task Force.

13 On or before August 1, 2024, the Task Force shall report on
14 its work, including recommendations on a teacher performance
15 assessment system in this State, to the State Board of
16 Education. The Task Force is dissolved upon submission of this
17 report.

18 (g) The content area knowledge test and the teacher
19 performance assessment shall be the tests that from time to
20 time are designated by the State Board of Education, in
21 consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
22 Board, and may be tests prepared by an educational testing
23 organization or tests designed by the State Board of
24 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation
25 and Licensure Board. The test of content area knowledge shall
26 assess content knowledge in a specific subject field. The

1 tests must be designed to be racially neutral to ensure that no
2 person taking the tests is discriminated against on the basis
3 of race, color, national origin, or other factors unrelated to
4 the person's ability to perform as a licensed employee. The
5 score required to pass the tests shall be fixed by the State
6 Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator
7 Preparation and Licensure Board. The tests shall be
8 administered not fewer than 3 times a year at such time and
9 place as may be designated by the State Board of Education, in
10 consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
11 Board.

12 The State Board shall implement a test or tests to assess
13 the speaking, reading, writing, and grammar skills of
14 applicants for an endorsement or a license issued under
15 subdivision (G) of paragraph (2) of Section 21B-20 of this
16 Code in the English language and in the language of the
17 transitional bilingual education program requested by the
18 applicant.

19 (h) Except as provided in Section 34-6 of this Code, the
20 provisions of this Section shall apply equally in any school
21 district subject to Article 34 of this Code.

22 (i) The rules developed to implement and enforce the
23 testing requirements under this Section shall include without
24 limitation provisions governing test selection, test
25 validation and determination of a passing score,
26 administration of the tests, frequency of administration,

1 applicant fees, frequency of applicants taking the tests, the
2 years for which a score is valid, and appropriate special
3 accommodations. The State Board of Education shall develop
4 such rules as may be needed to ensure uniformity from year to
5 year in the level of difficulty for each form of an assessment.
6 (Source: P.A. 101-81, eff. 7-12-19; 101-220, eff. 8-7-19;
7 101-594, eff. 12-5-19; 102-301, eff. 8-26-21.)

8 (105 ILCS 5/21B-50)

9 Sec. 21B-50. Alternative Educator Licensure Program.

10 (a) There is established an alternative educator licensure
11 program, to be known as the Alternative Educator Licensure
12 Program for Teachers.

13 (b) The Alternative Educator Licensure Program for
14 Teachers may be offered by a recognized institution approved
15 to offer educator preparation programs by the State Board of
16 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation
17 and Licensure Board.

18 The program shall be comprised of 4 phases:

19 (1) A course of study that at a minimum includes
20 instructional planning; instructional strategies,
21 including special education, reading, and English language
22 learning; classroom management; and the assessment of
23 students and use of data to drive instruction.

24 (2) A year of residency, which is a candidate's
25 assignment to a full-time teaching position or as a

1 co-teacher for one full school year. An individual must
2 hold an Educator License with Stipulations with an
3 alternative provisional educator endorsement in order to
4 enter the residency and must complete additional program
5 requirements that address required State and national
6 standards, pass the State Board's teacher performance
7 assessment, if required under Section 21B-30, no later
8 than the end of the first semester of the second year of
9 residency, as required under phase (3) of this subsection
10 (b), and be recommended by the principal or qualified
11 equivalent of a principal, as required under subsection
12 (d) of this Section, and the program coordinator to
13 continue with the second year of the residency.

14 (3) A second year of residency, which shall include
15 the candidate's assignment to a full-time teaching
16 position for one school year. The candidate must be
17 assigned an experienced teacher to act as a mentor and
18 coach the candidate through the second year of residency.

19 (4) A comprehensive assessment of the candidate's
20 teaching effectiveness, as evaluated by the principal or
21 qualified equivalent of a principal, as required under
22 subsection (d) of this Section, and the program
23 coordinator, at the end of the second year of residency.
24 If there is disagreement between the 2 evaluators about
25 the candidate's teaching effectiveness, the candidate may
26 complete one additional year of residency teaching under a

1 professional development plan developed by the principal
2 or qualified equivalent and the preparation program. At
3 the completion of the third year, a candidate must have
4 positive evaluations and a recommendation for full
5 licensure from both the principal or qualified equivalent
6 and the program coordinator or no Professional Educator
7 License shall be issued.

8 Successful completion of the program shall be deemed to
9 satisfy any other practice or student teaching and content
10 matter requirements established by law.

11 (c) An alternative provisional educator endorsement on an
12 Educator License with Stipulations is valid for 2 years of
13 teaching in the public schools, including without limitation a
14 preschool educational program under Section 2-3.71 of this
15 Code or charter school, or in a State-recognized nonpublic
16 school in which the chief administrator is required to have
17 the licensure necessary to be a principal in a public school in
18 this State and in which a majority of the teachers are required
19 to have the licensure necessary to be instructors in a public
20 school in this State, but may be renewed for a third year if
21 needed to complete the Alternative Educator Licensure Program
22 for Teachers. The endorsement shall be issued only once to an
23 individual who meets all of the following requirements:

24 (1) Has graduated from a regionally accredited college
25 or university with a bachelor's degree or higher.

26 (2) (Blank).

1 (3) Has completed a major in the content area if
2 seeking a middle or secondary level endorsement or, if
3 seeking an early childhood, elementary, or special
4 education endorsement, has completed a major in the
5 content area of reading, English/language arts,
6 mathematics, or one of the sciences. If the individual
7 does not have a major in a content area for any level of
8 teaching, he or she must submit transcripts to the State
9 Board of Education to be reviewed for equivalency.

10 (4) Has successfully completed phase (1) of subsection
11 (b) of this Section.

12 (5) Has passed a content area test required for the
13 specific endorsement for admission into the program, as
14 required under Section 21B-30 of this Code.

15 A candidate possessing the alternative provisional
16 educator endorsement may receive a salary, benefits, and any
17 other terms of employment offered to teachers in the school
18 who are members of an exclusive bargaining representative, if
19 any, but a school is not required to provide these benefits
20 during the years of residency if the candidate is serving only
21 as a co-teacher. If the candidate is serving as the teacher of
22 record, the candidate must receive a salary, benefits, and any
23 other terms of employment. Residency experiences must not be
24 counted towards tenure.

25 (d) The recognized institution offering the Alternative
26 Educator Licensure Program for Teachers must partner with a

1 school district, including without limitation a preschool
2 educational program under Section 2-3.71 of this Code or
3 charter school, or a State-recognized, nonpublic school in
4 this State in which the chief administrator is required to
5 have the licensure necessary to be a principal in a public
6 school in this State and in which a majority of the teachers
7 are required to have the licensure necessary to be instructors
8 in a public school in this State. A recognized institution
9 that partners with a public school district administering a
10 preschool educational program under Section 2-3.71 of this
11 Code must require a principal to recommend or evaluate
12 candidates in the program. A recognized institution that
13 partners with an eligible entity administering a preschool
14 educational program under Section 2-3.71 of this Code and that
15 is not a public school district must require a principal or
16 qualified equivalent of a principal to recommend or evaluate
17 candidates in the program. The program presented for approval
18 by the State Board of Education must demonstrate the supports
19 that are to be provided to assist the provisional teacher
20 during the 2-year residency period. These supports must
21 provide additional contact hours with mentors during the first
22 year of residency.

23 (e) Upon completion of the 4 phases outlined in subsection
24 (b) of this Section and all assessments required under Section
25 21B-30 of this Code, an individual shall receive a
26 Professional Educator License.

1 (f) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
2 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may adopt such
3 rules as may be necessary to establish and implement the
4 Alternative Educator Licensure Program for Teachers.

5 (Source: P.A. 100-596, eff. 7-1-18; 100-822, eff. 1-1-19;
6 101-220, eff. 8-7-19; 101-570, eff. 8-23-19; 101-643, eff.
7 6-18-20; 101-654, eff. 3-8-21.)

8 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
9 becoming law."