



## 95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2007 and 2008

HB1485

Introduced 2/21/2007, by Rep. Constance A. Howard

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/21-29 new  
110 ILCS 205/9.33 new

Amends the School Code. Provides that a transition specialist certificate shall be issued to persons who, through their education and training, have a comprehensive understanding of the requirements for transition planning and of transition services for students with all types of disabilities and are aware of the array of options available to students with disabilities after they exit high school. Provides that before the 2008-2009 academic year, the Board of Higher Education shall, in collaboration with the Interagency Coordinating Council and the Advisory Council on the Education of Children with Disabilities, develop coursework for students who want to qualify for a transition specialist certificate. Provides that those public universities that are teacher training institutions shall implement the coursework developed by the Board beginning with the 2008-2009 academic year. Effective immediately.

LRB095 10362 NHT 30577 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

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 adding Section  
5 21-29 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21-29 new)

7 Sec. 21-29. Transition specialist certificate. A  
8 transition specialist certificate shall be issued to those  
9 applicants who meet all of the following qualifications:

10 (1) The person is of good character and good health and  
11 is a citizen of the United States and at least 19 years of  
12 age.

13 (2) The person, through his or her education and  
14 training as determined by the State Superintendent of  
15 Education in consultation with the State Teacher  
16 Certification Board, (i) has a comprehensive understanding  
17 of the requirements for transition planning and of  
18 transition services for students with all types of  
19 disabilities and (ii) is aware of the array of options  
20 available to students with disabilities after they exit  
21 high school, including employment and training,  
22 post-secondary education, vocational education,  
23 independent living, leisure skills training, and

1       residential choices.

2       (3) The person meets all other requirements  
3       established by the State Superintendent of Education in  
4       consultation with the State Teacher Certification Board so  
5       that a person who holds a transition specialist certificate  
6       is qualified to perform all of the following functions:

7               (A) Provide leadership and expertise to  
8               individualized education program team members and  
9               other school personnel as they develop and implement  
10              transition plans for students with disabilities.

11              (B) Monitor the implementation of transition  
12              services to students with disabilities.

13              (C) Recommend modifications to transition plans  
14              and services for students with disabilities as deemed  
15              necessary.

16              (D) Ensure that parents and guardians of students  
17              with disabilities have the opportunity to fully  
18              participate in and understand the transition planning  
19              process and the provision of transition services for  
20              their child.

21              (E) Be primarily responsible for the development  
22              of additional transition resources and services for  
23              students with disabilities in the communities served  
24              by his or her school.

25              (F) Work with his or her school board and school  
26              administration to develop policies and procedures

1           concerning transition planning and services, as  
2           needed.

3           Section 10. The Board of Higher Education Act is amended by  
4 adding Section 9.33 as follows:

5           (110 ILCS 205/9.33 new)

6           Sec. 9.33. Transition specialist coursework. Before the  
7 2008-2009 academic year, the Board shall, in collaboration with  
8 the Interagency Coordinating Council and the Advisory Council  
9 on the Education of Children with Disabilities, develop  
10 coursework for students who want to qualify for a transition  
11 specialist certificate under Section 21-29 of the School Code.  
12 Those public universities that are teacher training  
13 institutions shall implement the coursework developed by the  
14 Board beginning with the 2008-2009 academic year.

15           Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
16 becoming law.