

**SB2972**



**98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**State of Illinois**

**2013 and 2014**

**SB2972**

Introduced 2/4/2014, by Sen. Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

105 ILCS 5/21B-25

Amends the Educator Licensure Article of the School Code. Allows a superintendent endorsement to be affixed to the Professional Educator License of a holder who has had at least 2 years of experience employed full-time in a general administrative position, among other qualifications. Effective immediately.

LRB098 19901 NHT 55120 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 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 Individuals who hold a valid and registered  
20 administrative certificate with a general  
21 administrative endorsement issued under Section 21-7.1  
22 of this Code or a Professional Educator License with a  
23 general administrative endorsement issued prior to  
24 September 1, 2014 and who have served for at least one  
25 full year during the 5 years prior in a position  
26 requiring a general administrative endorsement shall,

1           upon request to the State Board of Education and  
2           through July 1, 2015, have their respective general  
3           administrative endorsement converted to a principal  
4           endorsement on the Professional Educator License.  
5           Candidates shall not be admitted to an approved general  
6           administrative preparation program after September 1,  
7           2012.

8           All other individuals holding a valid and  
9           registered administrative certificate with a general  
10          administrative endorsement issued pursuant to Section  
11          21-7.1 of this Code or a general administrative  
12          endorsement on a Professional Educator License issued  
13          prior to September 1, 2014 shall have the general  
14          administrative endorsement converted to a principal  
15          endorsement on a Professional Educator License upon  
16          request to the State Board of Education and by  
17          completing one of the following pathways:

18                 (i) Passage of the State principal assessment  
19                 developed by the State Board of Education.

20                 (ii) Through July 1, 2019, completion of an  
21                 Illinois Educators' Academy course designated by  
22                 the State Superintendent of Education.

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

26                 Individuals who do not choose to convert the

1           general       administrative       endorsement       on       the  
2       administrative certificate issued pursuant to Section  
3       21-7.1 of this Code or on the Professional Educator  
4       License shall continue to be able to serve in any  
5       position previously allowed under paragraph (2) of  
6       subsection (e) of Section 21-7.1 of this Code.

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

17           (B) Principal endorsement. A principal endorsement  
18       shall be affixed to a Professional Educator License of  
19       any holder who qualifies by having all of the  
20       following:

21                   (i) Successful completion of a principal  
22       preparation program approved in accordance with  
23       Section 21B-60 of this Code and any applicable  
24       rules.

25                   (ii) Four years of teaching in a public school  
26       or nonpublic school recognized by the State Board

1 of Education; however, the State Board of  
2 Education, in consultation with the State Educator  
3 Preparation and Licensure Board, shall allow, by  
4 rules, for fewer than 4 years of experience based  
5 on meeting standards set forth in such rules,  
6 including without limitation a review of  
7 performance evaluations or other evidence of  
8 demonstrated qualifications.

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

11 (C) Chief school business official endorsement. A  
12 chief school business official endorsement shall be  
13 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any  
14 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree or  
15 higher, 2 years of full-time administrative experience  
16 in school business management or 2 years of  
17 university-approved practical experience, and a  
18 minimum of 24 semester hours of graduate credit in a  
19 program approved by the State Board of Education for  
20 the preparation of school business administrators and  
21 by passage of the applicable State tests. The chief  
22 school business official endorsement may also be  
23 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any  
24 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree in  
25 business administration, finance, or accounting and  
26 who completes an additional 6 semester hours of

1 internship in school business management from a  
2 regionally accredited institution of higher education  
3 and passes the applicable State tests. This  
4 endorsement shall be required for any individual  
5 employed as a chief school business official.

6 (D) Superintendent endorsement. A superintendent  
7 endorsement shall be affixed to the Professional  
8 Educator License of any holder who has completed a  
9 program approved by the State Board of Education for  
10 the preparation of superintendents of schools, has had  
11 at least 2 years of experience employed full-time in a  
12 general administrative position or as a full-time  
13 principal, director of special education, or chief  
14 school business official in the public schools or in a  
15 State-recognized nonpublic school in which the chief  
16 administrator is required to have the licensure  
17 necessary to be a principal in a public school in this  
18 State and where a majority of the teachers are required  
19 to have the licensure necessary to be instructors in a  
20 public school in this State, and has passed the  
21 required State tests; or of any holder who has  
22 completed a program from out-of-state that has a  
23 program with recognition standards comparable to those  
24 approved by the State Superintendent of Education and  
25 holds the general administrative, principal, or chief  
26 school business official endorsement and who has had 2

1 years of experience as a principal, director of special  
2 education, or chief school business official while  
3 holding a valid educator license or certificate  
4 comparable in validity and educational and experience  
5 requirements and has passed the appropriate State  
6 tests, as provided in Section 21B-30 of this Code. The  
7 superintendent endorsement shall allow individuals to  
8 serve only as a superintendent or assistant  
9 superintendent.

10 (E) Teacher leader endorsement. It shall be the  
11 policy of this State to improve the quality of  
12 instructional leaders by providing a career pathway  
13 for teachers interested in serving in leadership  
14 roles, but not as principals. The State Board of  
15 Education, in consultation with the State Educator  
16 Preparation and Licensure Board, may issue a teacher  
17 leader endorsement under this subdivision (E). Persons  
18 who meet and successfully complete the requirements of  
19 the endorsement shall be issued a teacher leader  
20 endorsement on the Professional Educator License for  
21 serving in schools in this State. Teacher leaders may  
22 qualify to serve in such positions as department  
23 chairs, coaches, mentors, curriculum and instruction  
24 leaders, or other leadership positions as defined by  
25 the district. The endorsement shall be available to  
26 those teachers who (i) hold a Professional Educator



1 License, (ii) hold a master's degree or higher from a  
2 regionally accredited institution, (iii) have  
3 completed a program of study that has been approved by  
4 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
5 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, and  
6 (iv) have taken coursework in all of the following  
7 areas:

8 (I) Leadership.

9 (II) Designing professional development to  
10 meet teaching and learning needs.

11 (III) Building school culture that focuses on  
12 student learning.

13 (IV) Using assessments to improve student  
14 learning and foster school improvement.

15 (V) Building collaboration with teachers and  
16 stakeholders.

17 A teacher who meets the requirements set forth in  
18 this Section and holds a teacher leader endorsement may  
19 evaluate teachers pursuant to Section 24A-5 of this  
20 Code, provided that the individual has completed the  
21 evaluation component required by Section 24A-3 of this  
22 Code and a teacher leader is allowed to evaluate  
23 personnel under the respective school district's  
24 collective bargaining agreement.

25 The State Board of Education, in consultation with  
26 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board,

1           may adopt such rules as may be necessary to establish  
2           and implement the teacher leader endorsement program  
3           and to specify the positions for which this endorsement  
4           shall be required.

5           (F) Special education endorsement. A special  
6           education endorsement in one or more areas shall be  
7           affixed to a Professional Educator License for any  
8           individual that meets those requirements established  
9           by the State Board of Education in rules. Special  
10          education endorsement areas shall include without  
11          limitation the following:

- 12                   (i) Learning Behavior Specialist I;  
13                   (ii) Learning Behavior Specialist II;  
14                   (iii) Speech Language Pathologist;  
15                   (iv) Blind or Visually Impaired;  
16                   (v) Deaf-Hard of Hearing; and  
17                   (vi) Early Childhood Special Education.

18          Notwithstanding anything in this Code to the contrary,  
19          the State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
20          State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may  
21          add additional areas of special education by rule.

22          (G) School support personnel endorsement. School  
23          support personnel endorsement areas shall include, but  
24          are not limited to, school counselor, marriage and  
25          family therapist, school psychologist, school speech  
26          and language pathologist, school nurse, and school

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

16 Beginning on January 1, 2014 and ending on April  
17 30, 2014, a person holding a Professional Educator  
18 License with a school speech and language pathologist  
19 (teaching) endorsement may exchange his or her school  
20 speech and language pathologist (teaching) endorsement  
21 for a school speech and language pathologist  
22 (non-teaching) endorsement through application to the  
23 State Board of Education. There shall be no cost for  
24 this exchange.

25 (Source: P.A. 97-607, eff. 8-26-11; 98-413, eff. 8-16-13;  
26 98-610, eff. 12-27-13.)

1           Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
2    becoming law.