

HB2122



99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

HB2122

by Rep. Jim Durkin

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/21-5c

Amends the School Code. Makes a technical change in a Section concerning alternative teacher certification.

LRB099 08169 NHT 28320 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 21-5c as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21-5c)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2017)

8 Sec. 21-5c. Alternative route to teacher certification.

9 The ~~The~~ State Board of Education, in consultation with the
10 State Teacher Certification Board, shall establish and
11 implement one or more alternative route to teacher
12 certification programs under which persons who meet the
13 requirements of and successfully complete the programs
14 established by this Section shall be issued an initial teaching
15 certificate for teaching in schools in this State. The State
16 Board of Education may approve a course of study that persons
17 in such programs must successfully complete in order to satisfy
18 one criterion for issuance of a certificate under this Section.
19 The Alternative Route to Teacher Certification programs course
20 of study must include content and skills which have been
21 approved by the State Board of Education, in consultation with
22 the State Teacher Certification Board, as meeting the
23 requirement for State teacher certification.

1 Programs established under this Section shall be known as
2 Alternative Route to Teacher Certification programs. The
3 programs may be offered by a university that offers 4-year
4 baccalaureate and masters degree programs and that is a
5 recognized institution as defined in Section 21B-105 of this
6 Code, by one or more not-for-profit organizations in the State,
7 or a combination thereof. The programs shall be comprised of
8 the following 3 phases: (a) a course of study offered on an
9 intensive basis in education theory, instructional methods,
10 and practice teaching; (b) the person's assignment to a
11 full-time teaching position for one school year, including the
12 designation of a mentor teacher to advise and assist the person
13 with that teaching assignment; and (c) a comprehensive
14 assessment of the person's teaching performance by school
15 officials and program participants and a recommendation by the
16 program sponsor to the State Board of Education that the person
17 be issued an initial teaching certificate. Successful
18 completion of Alternative Route to Teacher Certification
19 programs shall be deemed to satisfy any other practice or
20 student teaching and subject matter requirements established
21 by law.

22 A provisional alternative teaching certificate, valid for
23 one year of teaching in the common schools and not renewable,
24 shall be issued under this Section 21-5c to persons who at the
25 time of applying for the provisional alternative teaching
26 certificate under this Section:

1 (1) have graduated from an accredited college or
2 university with a bachelor's degree;

3 (2) have been employed for a period of at least 5 years
4 in an area requiring application of the individual's
5 education;

6 (3) have successfully completed the first phase of the
7 Alternative Teacher Certification program as provided in
8 this Section; and

9 (4) have passed the tests of basic skills and subject
10 matter knowledge required by Section 21-1a.

11 An initial teaching certificate, valid for teaching in the
12 common schools, shall be issued under Section 21-3 or 21-5 to
13 persons who first complete the requirements for the provisional
14 alternative teaching certificate and who at the time of
15 applying for an initial teaching certificate have successfully
16 completed the second and third phases of the Alternative Route
17 to Teacher Certification program as provided in this Section.

18 A person possessing a provisional alternative certificate
19 or an initial teaching certificate earned under this Section
20 shall be treated as a regularly certified teacher for purposes
21 of compensation, benefits, and other terms and conditions of
22 employment afforded teachers in the school who are members of a
23 bargaining unit represented by an exclusive bargaining
24 representative, if any.

25 The State Board of Education may adopt rules and
26 regulations that are consistent with this Section and that the

1 State Board deems necessary to establish and implement the
2 program.

3 No one may be admitted to an alternative certification
4 program under this Section after September 1, 2014, and those
5 alternative certification candidates who are admitted on or
6 before September 1, 2014 must complete their coursework before
7 January 1, 2016 and be entitled to certification on or before
8 September 30, 2016. An alternative certification program shall
9 provide the State Board of Education with the names of the
10 candidates who will be eligible for certification.

11 This Section is repealed on January 1, 2017.

12 (Source: P.A. 97-607, eff. 8-26-11; 97-702, eff. 6-25-12;
13 98-38, eff. 6-28-13; 98-603, eff. 6-1-14; 98-688, eff.
14 6-30-14.)