
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TEACHER LICENSING.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's public
2 schools would be well served if there were an abundance of
3 highly qualified teachers from which public school principals
4 could select.

5 SECTION 2. Section 302A-802, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

7 "(c) The board shall adopt policies, exempt from chapters
8 91 and 92, to initiate the following:

9 (1) Develop criteria allowing more individuals with trade
10 or industry experience to teach in vocational,
11 technical, and career pathway programs, and criteria
12 for the issuance of permits allowing qualified
13 individuals to teach when recommended by the
14 superintendent. The department shall be responsible
15 for the review and acceptance of the relevant
16 licenses, certificates, or other qualifications
17 related to an individual's vocational, technical, or
18 career pathway education-related experience that the



1 department deems necessary for a permit. The
2 department shall have the authority to waive the
3 requirement of a bachelor's degree to teach in a
4 vocation, technical, or career pathway education
5 program;

6 (2) Develop a plan to accept teachers from any state as
7 long as they have completed state-approved teacher
8 education programs and pass relevant Hawaii teacher
9 examinations or their equivalent;

10 (3) Clarify the requirements, on a state-by-state basis,
11 for out-of-state licensed teachers to obtain a license
12 in Hawaii;

13 (4) Develop a plan to facilitate licensing for those who
14 intend to teach in Hawaii immersion programs, the
15 island of Niihau, or any other extraordinary situation
16 as defined by the superintendent or the
17 superintendent's designee; [and]

18 (5) Pursue full teacher license reciprocity with [the
19 ~~mid-Atlantic states, California, Colorado, Illinois,~~
20 ~~Michigan, New York, Oregon, and Washington.~~] all other
21 states; and



1 (6) Issue a license to a teacher with a valid out-of-state
2 license who has passed similar, though not identical,
3 tests in basic skills, pedagogy, and subject matter to
4 those required for licensure in the State; provided
5 that upon the effective date of the adoption of
6 administrative rules addressing the recognition of
7 out-of-state teacher licenses, those administrative
8 rules shall supersede the requirements of this
9 paragraph."

10 SECTION 3. The Hawaii teacher standards board shall
11 provide notification to the chairs of the senate committee on
12 education and the house of representatives committee on
13 education upon the adoption of the administrative rules relating
14 to the issuance of licenses to teachers with valid out-of-state
15 licenses who have passed similar, though not identical, tests in
16 basic skills, pedagogy, and subject matter to those required for
17 licensure in the State.

18 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

20 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Teacher Licensing; Reciprocity; Out-of-State Teacher Licensure

Description:

Requires the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to pursue full teacher license reciprocity with all other states; authorizes the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to issue licenses to out-of-state teacher licensure, based on certain criteria; provided that upon the adoption of administrative rules to accomplish that purpose the rules shall supersede the statutory requirement. (SD1)

