
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TEACHING LICENSURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that it is in the best
2 interest of the department of education, the schools, and the
3 students that the teaching force be comprised of the most
4 effective teachers possible. The legislature is aware that the
5 qualities inherent in the most effective teachers are often not
6 predictable by the pre-licensure training that teachers must
7 undergo.

8 The legislature also finds that the present licensure
9 process in the State of Hawaii prevents some of these effective
10 teachers from receiving a Hawaii teaching license. This is
11 found to be particularly true where the teacher is from outside
12 the State.

13 The purpose of this Act is to create an avenue for
14 effective teachers to receive a Hawaii teaching license when
15 other avenues are closed or cumbersome.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 **"§302A- Exceptional teacher license recognition**
5 **committee; established.** (a) The department shall form the
6 exceptional teacher license recognition committee that shall
7 review and deliberate on the licensure worthiness of teachers
8 who received either national or state awards for teaching
9 excellence, such as a national certification or a teacher of the
10 year award, or provide evidence of a minimum of five years of
11 excellent or exceptional teacher evaluations and a professional
12 portfolio. The exceptional teacher license recognition
13 committee may waive all requirements that would otherwise deny
14 the candidate immediate licensure and, upon determining that a
15 teacher is qualified to be licensed in the State, shall direct
16 the Hawaii teacher standards board to properly issue the teacher
17 a valid state teaching license. Licensure provided under this
18 section shall be for a period of five years; provided that
19 license renewals shall be issued pursuant to criteria
20 established by the Hawaii teacher standards board.
21 (b) The exceptional teacher license recognition committee
22 shall be comprised at least five members appointed by the



1 superintendent who are teachers and principals who have received
2 state or national recognition for having demonstrated
3 exceptional educational talent."

4 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007, and
6 shall be repealed on July 1, 2012.



Report Title:

DOE; Exceptional Teacher License Recognition Committee; Teacher
Licensure

Description:

Establishes the exceptional teacher license recognition
committee to review teaching licensure standards to ensure
outstanding teachers from outside the State receive a Hawaii
teaching license. (SD1)

