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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TEACHER LICENSING.

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 302A-804, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended as follows:

3           1. By amending subsection (b) to read:

4           "(b) The department's powers and duties under this subpart  
5 shall be limited to:

6           (1) Hiring, except in emergency situations as described in  
7 this chapter, licensed teachers to teach in their  
8 fields of licensing;

9           (2) Reporting data annually to the board about the supply  
10 of, and demand for, teachers in department schools,  
11 including the identification of shortage areas,  
12 out-of-field teaching assignments, number of  
13 classrooms without a licensed teacher for a quarter or  
14 more, numbers of teachers teaching out-of-field,  
15 numbers and types of courses and classes taught by  
16 out-of-field teachers, and numbers and types of  
17 students taught by out-of-field teachers;



- 1 (3) On an emergency and case-by-case basis, hiring  
 2 unlicensed individuals; provided that:
- 3 (A) A list of the names, work sites, teaching  
 4 assignments, and progress toward licensing of  
 5 these individuals shall be reported to the board  
 6 and any changes shall be updated on a monthly  
 7 basis by the department;
- 8 (B) There are no properly licensed teachers for the  
 9 specific assignments for which the individuals  
 10 are being hired; and
- 11 (C) No individual may be employed by the department  
 12 on an emergency basis for more than [~~three~~] five  
 13 years; provided that in the case of a declaration  
 14 of a state of emergency pursuant to section  
 15 127A-14, the board, pursuant to its powers in  
 16 section 302A-803(a)(18), may extend the [~~three-~~  
 17 ~~year~~] five-year period by authorizing an  
 18 extension to complete licensing requirements[~~-~~  
 19 ~~During~~]; provided further that during this time,  
 20 the individual shall demonstrate active pursuit  
 21 of licensing in each year of employment[~~+~~]



1                   through continuous and verifiable progress toward  
2                   satisfying licensing requirements, including  
3                   enrollment in an approved teacher education  
4                   program, completion of relevant coursework,  
5                   mentorship, application of necessary credentials,  
6                   or other method approved by the board;

7           (4) Submitting an annual report to the board documenting:

8                   (A) The number of emergency hires in department  
9                   schools by subject matter areas and by school;

10                  (B) The reasons and duration of employment for the  
11                  emergency hiring enumerated in subparagraph (A);  
12                  and

13                  (C) The department's efforts to address the shortages  
14                  described in subparagraph (A); and

15           (5) Providing any other information requested by the board  
16           that is pertinent to its powers and duties."

17           2. By amending subsection (d) to read:

18           "(d) A charter school's powers and duties under this  
19           subpart shall be limited to:



- 1 (1) Except in emergency situations as described in this  
2 chapter, hiring licensed teachers to teach in their  
3 fields of licensing;
- 4 (2) On an emergency and case-by-case basis, hiring  
5 unlicensed individuals; provided that:
- 6 (A) A list of the names, work sites, teaching  
7 assignments, and progress toward licensing of  
8 these individuals shall be reported to the board  
9 and any changes shall be updated on a monthly  
10 basis by the charter schools;
- 11 (B) There are no properly licensed teachers for the  
12 specific assignments for which the individuals  
13 are being hired; and
- 14 (C) No individual may be employed by the charter  
15 school on an emergency basis for more than  
16 [~~three~~] five years; provided that in the case of  
17 a declaration of a state of emergency pursuant to  
18 section 127A-14, the board, pursuant to its  
19 powers in section 302A-803(a)(18), may extend the  
20 [~~three-year~~] five-year period by authorizing an  
21 extension to complete licensing requirements[~~r~~



1           ~~During~~; provided further that during this time,  
2           the individual shall demonstrate active pursuit  
3           of licensing in each year of employment[+]   
4           through continuous and verifiable progress toward  
5           satisfying the licensing requirements, including  
6           enrollment in an approved teacher education  
7           program, completion of relevant coursework,  
8           mentorship, application of necessary credentials,  
9           or other method approved by the board;

10           (3) Submitting an annual report to the board documenting:

11           (A) The number of emergency hires in the charter  
12           school by subject matter areas;

13           (B) The reasons and duration of employment for the  
14           emergency hiring enumerated in subparagraph (A);

15           (C) The number of classrooms without a licensed  
16           teacher for a quarter or more;

17           (D) The number and type of courses and classes taught  
18           by out-of-field teachers; and

19           (E) The number and type of students taught by out-of-  
20           field teachers; and



1 (4) Providing any other information requested by the board  
2 that is pertinent to the charter school's powers and  
3 duties."

4 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
5 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

6 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
7 provided that on June 30, 2031, this Act shall be repealed and  
8 section 302A-804, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be reenacted in  
9 the form in which it read on the day prior to the effective date  
10 of this Act; provided further that any individual employed by  
11 the department of education or a charter school on an emergency  
12 basis pursuant to section 302A-804(b)(3) or (d)(2), Hawaii  
13 Revised Statutes, before June 30, 2031, shall be permitted to  
14 continue such employment for up to five years from the  
15 individual's initial date of hire; provided further that the  
16 individual shall continue to demonstrate active pursuit of  
17 licensing each year of employment as required pursuant to this  
18 Act.



**Report Title:**

DOE; Charter Schools; Teacher Licensing; Emergency Hires;  
Exemptions; Licensure Progress

**Description:**

Allows the Department of Education and charter schools to hire unlicensed individuals as teachers on an emergency basis for five, rather than three, years. Requires that unlicensed teachers hired on an emergency basis make continuous and verifiable progress toward satisfying licensing requirements. Sunsets on 6/30/2031, but provides that unlicensed emergency hires employed before the sunset date may continue employment for up to five years from their hiring date, under certain conditions. (CD1)

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