

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. Section 302A-803, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“**§302A-803 Powers and duties of the board.** In addition to establishing standards for the issuance of licenses and credentials, the board’s powers shall also include:

- (1) Setting and administering its own budget;
- (2) Adopting, amending, repealing, or suspending the policies, standards, or rules of the board in accordance with chapter 91;
- (3) Receiving grants or donations from private foundations;
- (4) Submitting an annual report to the governor and the legislature on the board’s operations;
- (5) Conducting a cyclical review of standards and suggesting revisions for their improvement;
- (6) Establishing licensing and credentialing fees in accordance with chapter 91, including the collection of fees by means of mandatory payroll deductions, which shall subsequently be deposited into the state treasury and credited to the Hawaii teacher standards board revolving fund; [and]
- (7) Establishing penalties in accordance with chapter 91[.]; and
- (8) Granting extensions of credentials on a case-by-case basis pursuant to section 302A-805.”

SECTION 2. Section 302A-805, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“**§302A-805 Teachers; license or credential required; renewals.** (a) Beginning with the 1997-1998 school year, no person shall serve as a teacher in a public school without first having obtained a license or credential from the department under this subpart. All licenses issued by the department shall be renewable every five years, if the licensee continues to satisfy the board’s licensing standards. All credentials issued by the department shall be renewable every year, up to a maximum of three years, if the credential holder continues to satisfy the board’s credentialing standards and actively pursues appropriate licensing. For the 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 school years only, the board may, on a case-by-case basis, extend a credential for one year, but no more than twice for any credential holder, provided that the individual seeking an extension meets the following requirements and submits a written request to the board consisting of:

- (1) Copies of the department’s form C with supporting documents that demonstrate active pursuit of and satisfactory progression in license requirements;
- (2) Documentation of extenuating circumstances that explain the need for an extension or lack of availability of programs and courses required for licensing;
- (3) Narrative evaluation from current and past school principals documenting teaching performance according to the board’s performance standards;

- (4) Submittal of the credential holder's proposed action plan to meet all licensing standards;
- (5) Documentation of passing scores for basic skills tests or documented evidence, which the individual maintains, of concerted effort to pass the basic skills test, beyond mere retaking of the test; and
- (6) Documentation of passing scores for applicable subject matter content tests unless the subject matter is integrated into the teacher preparation program.
- (b) The board shall consider the following in granting any extension:
 - (1) The diligence with which the credential holder has pursued licensing;
 - (2) The extenuating circumstances and the extent to which the individual has been subjected to constraints beyond the individual's control to the timely completion of all licensing requirements;
 - (3) Evidence of strong teaching performance according to the board's performance standards; and
 - (4) Likelihood of successful implementation of the credential holder's proposed action plan.'

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval; provided that on June 30, 2002, this Act shall be repealed and sections 302A-803 and 302A-805, Hawaii Revised Statutes, are reenacted in the form in which they read on the day before the approval of this Act.

(Approved May 22, 2000.)