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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. **711**

02/04/2021

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Early Childhood Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to education; establishing a teacher licensure requirement for early
1.3 education programs; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter
1.4 122A.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. **[122A.261] PREKINDERGARTEN, SCHOOL READINESS,**
1.7 **PRESCHOOL, AND EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAMS; LICENSURE**
1.8 **REQUIREMENT.**

1.9 Subdivision 1. **Licensure requirement.** A school district or charter school must employ
1.10 a qualified teacher, as defined in section 122A.16, to provide instruction in a preschool,
1.11 school readiness, school readiness plus, prekindergarten, or other school district or charter
1.12 school-based early education program.

1.13 Subd. 2. **Exemptions.** A person employed by a school district or charter school as a
1.14 teacher in an early education program during the 2020-2021 school year who does not have
1.15 a Minnesota teaching license is exempt from the licensure requirement until July 1, 2026,
1.16 or until such time as the teacher is able to obtain a Minnesota teaching license, whichever
1.17 occurs first. Notwithstanding this exemption from the licensure requirement, these individuals
1.18 are teachers under section 179A.03, subdivision 18.