ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 265–ASSEMBLYWOMEN ANDERSON AND BROWN-MAY

MARCH 15, 2021

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing alternative routes to licensure for school administrators. (BDR 34-671)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: Yes.

EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; establishing certain requirements for an alternative route to licensure for administrators; requiring the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to appoint a panel to determine whether a person is qualified to obtain a provisional license as an administrator; authorizing the panel to recommend to the Superintendent of Public Instruction whether to issue a provisional license to a person; requiring the Commission to adopt certain regulations; requiring the State Board of Education to conduct certain evaluations; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to adopt regulations regarding the licensure of teachers and administrators through an alternative route to licensure. Under existing law, such regulations must impose various requirements on a qualified provider of an alternative route to licensure, including: (1) providing that a qualified provider that provides the required education and training for an alternative route to licensure may operate independently of an institution of higher education; (2) requiring that a qualified provider be selective in accepting students; and (3) requiring that a qualified provider provide school-based experiences and ongoing support for its students. (NRS 391.019) Section 1 of this bill authorizes a person to apply for a provisional license as an administrator by submitting an application to the Commission. Section 1 sets forth various requirements for a program for an alternative route to licensure for administrators, including, without limitation, requiring: (1) that the program be evidence-based; (2) that the program impose certain requirements and provide certain support to persons who obtain a license as an administrator through the program; and (3) that a person hold a license to teach before obtaining a license





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as an administrator. **Section 1** requires the Commission to appoint a panel to determine whether a person who applies to the Commission for a provisional license as an administrator is qualified to obtain such a license. **Section 1** requires the panel to, after conducting a review of the person, recommend to the Superintendent of Public Instruction that the application be approved, approved with conditions or denied. **Section 1** provides that a person whose application for a provisional license as an administrator is approved may apply to obtain a regular license as an administrator if the person is employed for not less than 2 years as: (1) a principal or vice principal of a public school other than a charter school; or (2) a principal of a charter school and the performance of the charter school is adequate, as measured by certain performance indicators. Finally, **section 1** requires the Department of Education to post certain information on its Internet website regarding providers of programs for an alternative route to licensure for administrators and obtaining a provisional license as an administrator.

Existing law requires the Commission to adopt regulations relating to the issuance of certain licenses to teachers and other educational personnel. (NRS 391.032) **Section 2** of this bill requires the Commission to adopt regulations that set forth certain criteria a panel appointed by the Commission must use to determine whether a person is qualified to obtain a provisional license as an administrator.

Existing law requires the State Board of Education to evaluate each provider of an alternative route to licensure. (NRS 391.039) **Section 3** of this bill requires the State Board to evaluate a panel appointed by the Commission pursuant to **section 1**.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- **Section 1.** Chapter 391 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- 1. In addition to the requirements of NRS 391.019, a program for an alternative route to licensure for administrators must, without limitation:
 - (a) Be evidence-based;
- (b) Require a person who has obtained a license through the program to be evaluated over the course of not less than 1 school year to measure the competency of the person;
- (c) Provide school-based support during the first 2 years the person holds a license as an administrator obtained through the program; and
- (d) Require a person to hold a license to teach before obtaining a license as an administrator.
- 2. A person may apply for a provisional license as an administrator by submitting an application to the Commission. The Commission shall appoint a panel comprised of Commission members to review and determine whether a person may obtain a provisional license as an administrator by demonstrating to the panel the qualifications of the person to become an administrator in accordance with the regulations adopted by the Commission pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 1 of NRS 391.032. After





conducting a review pursuant to this subsection, the panel shall recommend to the Superintendent of Public Instruction that an application for a provisional license as an administrator be approved, approved with conditions or denied. A person whose application for a provisional license as an administrator pursuant to this subsection is approved may apply for a regular license as an administrator if the person, for not less than 2 years after the date on which a provisional license was issued, is employed as:

- (a) A principal or vice principal at a public school other than a charter school; or
- (b) A principal of a charter school and the performance of the charter school is adequate, as measured by the performance indicators, measures and metrics set forth in the performance framework for the charter school.
 - 3. The Department shall post on its Internet website:
- (a) A list of qualified providers of programs for an alternative route to licensure for administrators; and
- (b) Information relating to obtaining a provisional license as an administrator through a panel appointed pursuant to subsection 2, including, without limitation, the criteria set forth by the Commission pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 1 of NRS 391.032.
- **Sec. 2.** NRS 391.032 is hereby amended to read as follows: 391.032 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027, the Commission shall:
- (a) Adopt regulations which provide for the issuance of provisional licenses to teachers and other educational personnel before completion of all courses of study or other requirements for a license in this State.
- (b) Adopt regulations which provide for the reciprocal licensure of educational personnel from other states including, without limitation, for the reciprocal licensure of persons who hold a license to teach special education. Such regulations must include, without limitation, provisions for the reciprocal licensure of persons who obtained a license pursuant to an alternative route to licensure which the Department determines is as rigorous or more rigorous than the alternative route to licensure prescribed pursuant to subparagraph (1) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 391.019.
- (c) Adopt regulations which provide for the issuance of provisional licenses to administrators based upon the recommendation of the panel appointed pursuant to subsection 2 of section 1 of this act. Such regulations must include, without limitation, the criteria the panel must consider in determining whether to recommend the issuance of a provisional license as an





administrator to a person. The criteria must include, without limitation:

- (1) The educational background of the person, including, without limitation, any formal education and coursework completed by the person;
 - (2) The professional experience of the person; and
- (3) The performance of the person in an interview conducted by the panel.
- 2. A person who is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States or the spouse of such a member or veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States and who has completed the equivalent of an alternative route to licensure program in another state may obtain a license as if such person has completed the alternative route to licensure program of this State.
- 3. [A] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 of section 1 of this act, a person who is issued a provisional license must complete all courses of study and other requirements for a license in this State which is not provisional within 3 years after the date on which a provisional license is issued.
 - **Sec. 3.** NRS 391.039 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 391.039 1. The State Board shall, on an annual basis, evaluate *a panel appointed pursuant to section 1 of this act and* each provider approved by the Commission to offer a course of study or training designed to qualify a person to be a teacher or administrator or to perform other educational functions, including, without limitation, a qualified provider approved by the Commission pursuant to subparagraph (1) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 391.019 to offer an alternative route to licensure. The evaluation must include, without limitation, for each *panel appointed pursuant to section 1 of this act and each* provider, the number of persons:
- (a) Who received a license pursuant to this chapter after completing the education, course of study or training offered by the provider [;] or interview conducted by a panel appointed pursuant to section 1 of this act; and
- (b) Identified in paragraph (a) who are employed by a school district or a charter school in this State after receiving a license and information relating to the performance evaluations of those persons conducted by the school district or charter school. The information relating to the performance evaluations must be reported in an aggregated format and not reveal the identity of a person.
- 2. The Department shall post on its Internet website the evaluation conducted pursuant to subsection 1.



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Sec. 4. 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.

2. Sections 1, 2 and 3 of this act become effective:

- (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and performing any preliminary administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and (b) On January 1, 2022, for all other purposes.





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