

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 284—ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO

MARCH 18, 2019

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the alternative route to licensure of certain teachers who teach pupils with certain disabilities. (BDR 34-1010)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; revising provisions governing the alternative route to licensure of certain teachers who teach special education; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

- 1 Existing law requires the Commission on Professional Standards in Education
- 2 to adopt regulations prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and
- 3 administrators pursuant to an alternative route to licensure. (NRS 391.019) **Section**
- 4 **1** of this bill requires those regulations to allow for the completion of any education
- 5 and training necessary to teach pupils who are deaf, hard of hearing or visually
- 6 impaired under the alternative route to licensure.
- 7 Existing law also requires the Commission to adopt regulations which provide
- 8 for the issuance of provisional licenses to teachers and other educational personnel
- 9 before completion of all courses of study or other requirements for a license. (NRS
- 10 391.032) **Section 2** of this bill requires the Commission to adopt regulations
- 11 providing for the issuance of a provisional license to certain teachers while those
- 12 teachers complete any education and training necessary to teach pupils who are
- 13 deaf, hard of hearing or visually impaired.

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

- 1 **Section 1.** NRS 391.019 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 2 391.019 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027,
- 3 the Commission shall adopt regulations:



1 (a) Prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and other  
2 educational personnel, including, without limitation, the  
3 qualifications for a license to teach middle school or junior high  
4 school education, and the procedures for the issuance and renewal of  
5 those licenses. The regulations:

6 (1) Must include, without limitation, the qualifications for  
7 licensing teachers and administrators pursuant to an alternative route  
8 to licensure which provides that the required education and training  
9 may be provided by any qualified provider which has been approved  
10 by the Commission, including, without limitation, institutions of  
11 higher education and other providers that operate independently of  
12 an institution of higher education. The regulations adopted pursuant  
13 to this subparagraph must:

14 (I) Establish the requirements for approval as a qualified  
15 provider;

16 (II) Require a qualified provider to be selective in its  
17 acceptance of students;

18 (III) Require a qualified provider to provide supervised,  
19 school-based experiences and ongoing support for its students, such  
20 as mentoring and coaching;

21 (IV) Significantly limit the amount of course work  
22 required or provide for the waiver of required course work for  
23 students who achieve certain scores on tests;

24 (V) Allow for the completion in 2 years or less of the  
25 education and training required under the alternative route to  
26 licensure;

27 (VI) *Allow for the completion of any education and*  
28 *training necessary to teach pupils who are deaf, hard of hearing*  
29 *or visually impaired under the alternative route to licensure;*

30 (VII) Provide that a person who has completed the  
31 education and training required under the alternative route to  
32 licensure and who has satisfied all other requirements for licensure  
33 may apply for a regular license pursuant to sub-subparagraph ~~(VII)~~  
34 (VIII) regardless of whether the person has received an offer of  
35 employment from a school district, charter school or private school;  
36 and

37 ~~(VII)~~ (VIII) Upon the completion by a person of the  
38 education and training required under the alternative route to  
39 licensure and the satisfaction of all other requirements for licensure,  
40 provide for the issuance of a regular license to the person pursuant  
41 to the provisions of this chapter and the regulations adopted  
42 pursuant to this chapter.

43 (2) Must require an applicant for a license to teach middle  
44 school or junior high school education or secondary education to  
45 demonstrate proficiency in a field of specialization or area of



1 concentration by successfully completing course work prescribed by  
2 the Department or completing a subject matter competency  
3 examination prescribed by the Department with a score deemed  
4 satisfactory.

5 (3) Must not prescribe qualifications which are more  
6 stringent than the qualifications set forth in NRS 391.0315 for a  
7 licensed teacher who applies for an additional license in accordance  
8 with that section.

9 (b) Identifying fields of specialization in teaching which require  
10 the specialized training of teachers.

11 (c) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.125, requiring  
12 teachers to obtain from the Department an endorsement in a field of  
13 specialization to be eligible to teach in that field of specialization,  
14 including, without limitation, an endorsement to teach English as a  
15 second language.

16 (d) Setting forth the educational requirements a teacher must  
17 satisfy to qualify for an endorsement in each field of specialization.

18 (e) Setting forth the qualifications and requirements for  
19 obtaining a license or endorsement to teach American Sign  
20 Language, including, without limitation, being registered with the  
21 Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health  
22 and Human Services pursuant to NRS 656A.100 to engage in the  
23 practice of interpreting in an educational setting.

24 (f) Requiring teachers and other educational personnel to be  
25 registered with the Aging and Disability Services Division pursuant  
26 to NRS 656A.100 to engage in the practice of interpreting in an  
27 educational setting if they:

28 (1) Provide instruction or other educational services; and

29 (2) Concurrently engage in the practice of interpreting, as  
30 defined in NRS 656A.060.

31 (g) Providing for the issuance and renewal of a special  
32 qualifications license to an applicant who holds a bachelor's degree,  
33 a master's degree or a doctoral degree from an accredited degree-  
34 granting postsecondary educational institution in a field for which  
35 the applicant will provide instruction in a classroom and who has:

36 (1) At least 2 years of experience teaching at an accredited  
37 degree-granting postsecondary educational institution in a field for  
38 which the applicant will provide instruction in a classroom and at  
39 least 3 years of experience working in that field; or

40 (2) At least 5 years of experience working in a field for  
41 which the applicant will provide instruction in a classroom.

42 ➤ An applicant for licensure pursuant to this paragraph who holds a  
43 bachelor's degree must submit proof of participation in a program of  
44 student teaching or mentoring or agree to participate in a program of  
45 mentoring or courses of pedagogy for the first 2 years of the



1 applicant's employment as a teacher with a school district or charter  
2 school.

3 (h) Requiring an applicant for a special qualifications license to:

4 (1) Pass each examination required by NRS 391.021 for the  
5 specific subject or subjects in which the applicant will provide  
6 instruction; or

7 (2) Hold a valid license issued by a professional licensing  
8 board of any state that is directly related to the subject area of the  
9 bachelor's degree, master's degree or doctoral degree held by the  
10 applicant.

11 (i) Setting forth the subject areas that may be taught by a person  
12 who holds a special qualifications license, based upon the subject  
13 area of the bachelor's degree, master's degree or doctoral degree  
14 held by that person.

15 (j) Providing for the issuance and renewal of a special  
16 qualifications license to an applicant who:

17 (1) Holds a bachelor's degree or a graduate degree from an  
18 accredited college or university in the field for which the applicant  
19 will be providing instruction;

20 (2) Is not licensed to teach public school in another state;

21 (3) Has at least 5 years of experience teaching with  
22 satisfactory evaluations at a school that is accredited by a national or  
23 regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States  
24 Department of Education; and

25 (4) Submits proof of participation in a program of student  
26 teaching or mentoring or agrees to participate in a program of  
27 mentoring for the first year of the applicant's employment as a  
28 teacher with a school district or charter school if the applicant holds  
29 a graduate degree or, if the applicant holds a bachelor's degree,  
30 submits proof of participation in a program of student teaching or  
31 mentoring or agrees to participate in a program of mentoring or  
32 courses of pedagogy for the first 2 years of his or her employment as  
33 a teacher with a school district or charter school.

34 ➤ An applicant for licensure pursuant to this paragraph is exempt  
35 from each examination required by NRS 391.021 if the applicant  
36 successfully passed the examination in another state.

37 (k) Prescribing course work on parental involvement and family  
38 engagement. The Commission shall work in cooperation with the  
39 Office of Parental Involvement and Family Engagement created by  
40 NRS 385.630 in developing the regulations required by this  
41 paragraph.

42 (l) Establishing the requirements for obtaining an endorsement  
43 on the license of a teacher, administrator or other educational  
44 personnel in cultural competency.



1 2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027, the  
2 Commission may adopt such other regulations as it deems necessary  
3 for its own government or to carry out its duties.

4 3. Any regulation which increases the amount of education,  
5 training or experience required for licensing:

6 (a) Must, in addition to the requirements for publication in  
7 chapter 233B of NRS, be publicized before its adoption in a manner  
8 reasonably calculated to inform those persons affected by the  
9 change.

10 (b) Must not become effective until at least 1 year after the date  
11 it is adopted by the Commission.

12 (c) Is not applicable to a license in effect on the date the  
13 regulation becomes effective.

14 4. A person who is licensed pursuant to paragraph (g) or (j) of  
15 subsection 1:

16 (a) Shall comply with all applicable statutes and regulations.

17 (b) Except as otherwise provided by specific statute, is entitled  
18 to all benefits, rights and privileges conferred by statutes and  
19 regulations on licensed teachers.

20 (c) Except as otherwise provided by specific statute, if the  
21 person is employed as a teacher by the board of trustees of a school  
22 district or the governing body of a charter school, is entitled to all  
23 benefits, rights and privileges conferred by statutes and regulations  
24 on the licensed employees of a school district or charter school, as  
25 applicable.

26 **Sec. 2.** NRS 391.032 is hereby amended to read as follows:

27 391.032 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027,  
28 the Commission shall:

29 (a) Adopt regulations which provide for the issuance of  
30 provisional licenses to teachers and other educational personnel  
31 before completion of all courses of study or other requirements for a  
32 license in this State. *Such regulations must authorize the issuance  
33 of a provisional license to teach special education that is valid for  
34 3 years if the teacher is:*

35 (1) *Certified by a national board; or*

36 (2) *A long-term substitute teacher who has earned a  
37 bachelor's degree and is working to complete education and  
38 training necessary to teach pupils who are deaf, hard of hearing  
39 or visually impaired.*

40 (b) Adopt regulations which provide for the reciprocal licensure  
41 of educational personnel from other states including, without  
42 limitation, for the reciprocal licensure of persons who hold a license  
43 to teach special education. Such regulations must include, without  
44 limitation, provisions for the reciprocal licensure of persons who  
45 obtained a license pursuant to an alternative route to licensure which



1 the Department determines is as rigorous or more rigorous than the  
2 alternative route to licensure prescribed pursuant to subparagraph  
3 (1) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 391.019.

4 2. A person who is issued a provisional license must complete  
5 all courses of study and other requirements for a license in this State  
6 which is not provisional within 3 years after the date on which a  
7 provisional license is issued.

8 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective:

9 1. Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any  
10 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative  
11 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

12 2. On October 1, 2019, for all other purposes.





