

SENATE BILL NO. 352—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

MARCH 25, 2021

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-843)

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; requiring the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to adopt regulations related to paraprofessionals and certain other employees and to student teaching; 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 relating to the qualifications to obtain a license to teach in this
3 State. (NRS 391.019) This bill requires the Commission to adopt regulations that:
4 (1) allow a person who is currently employed as a paraprofessional and enrolled in
5 a program to become a teacher to complete an accelerated program of student
6 teaching in the area in which the person is currently employed as a
7 paraprofessional; (2) require the Department of Education to accept a student
8 teaching experience completed in another state or a foreign country if the
9 Department determines that experience substantially fulfills the requirements of a
10 program of student teaching in this State; and (3) allow a person who is currently
11 employed by a public school to provide support or other services relating to school
12 psychology to simultaneously complete a program of internship in psychology.

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 and the procedures for the issuance and
3 renewal of those licenses. The regulations:

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

12 (I) Establish the requirements for approval as a qualified
13 provider;

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

16 (III) Require a qualified provider to provide in-person or
17 virtual supervised, school-based experiences and ongoing support
18 for its students, such as mentoring and coaching;

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

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

25 (VI) Provide that a person who has completed the
26 education and training required under the alternative route to
27 licensure and who has satisfied all other requirements for licensure
28 may apply for a regular license pursuant to sub-subparagraph (VII)
29 regardless of whether the person has received an offer of
30 employment from a school district, charter school or private school;
31 and

32 (VII) Upon the completion by a person of the education
33 and training required under the alternative route to licensure and the
34 satisfaction of all other requirements for licensure, provide for the
35 issuance of a regular license to the person pursuant to the provisions
36 of this chapter and the regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter.

37 (2) Must require an applicant for a license to teach middle
38 school or junior high school education or secondary education to
39 demonstrate proficiency in a field of specialization or area of
40 concentration by successfully completing course work prescribed by
41 the Department or completing a subject matter competency
42 examination prescribed by the Department with a score deemed
43 satisfactory.

44 (3) Must not prescribe qualifications which are more
45 stringent than the qualifications set forth in NRS 391.0315 for a



1 licensed teacher who applies for an additional license in accordance
2 with that section.

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

5 (c) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.125, requiring
6 teachers to obtain from the Department an endorsement in a field of
7 specialization to be eligible to teach in that field of specialization.

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

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

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

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

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

23 (g) Prescribing course work on parental involvement and family
24 engagement. The Commission shall work in cooperation with the
25 Office of Parental Involvement and Family Engagement created by
26 NRS 385.630 in developing the regulations required by this
27 paragraph.

28 (h) Establishing the requirements for obtaining an endorsement
29 on the license of a teacher, administrator or other educational
30 personnel in cultural competency.

31 (i) Authorizing the Superintendent of Public Instruction to issue
32 a license by endorsement to an applicant who holds an equivalent
33 license or authorization issued by a governmental entity in another
34 country if the Superintendent determines that the qualifications for
35 the equivalent license or authorization are substantially similar to
36 those prescribed pursuant to paragraph (a).

37 (j) Establishing the requirements for obtaining an endorsement
38 on the license of a teacher, administrator or other educational
39 personnel in teaching courses relating to financial literacy.

40 *(k) Authorizing a person who is employed as a*
41 *paraprofessional and enrolled in a program to become a teacher to*
42 *complete an accelerated program of student teaching in the same*
43 *or a substantially similar area in which the person is employed as a*
44 *paraprofessional while remaining employed as a*
45 *paraprofessional.*



1 *(l) Requiring the Department to accept a program of student*
2 *teaching or other teaching experience completed in another state*
3 *or foreign country by an applicant for a license if the Department*
4 *determines that the program or experience substantially fulfills the*
5 *standards of a program of student teaching in this State.*

6 *(m) Authorizing a person who is employed by a public school*
7 *to provide support or other services relating to school psychology,*
8 *if the person does not hold a license or endorsement as a school*
9 *psychologist but is enrolled in a program that would allow the*
10 *person to obtain such a license or endorsement, to complete a*
11 *program of internship in school psychology while remaining*
12 *employed in such a position.*

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

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

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

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

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

26 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2021.

