



# *State of Tennessee*

## **PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 1141**

### **SENATE BILL NO. 2442**

**By Bell, Bailey, Bowling, Rose, White**

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2455

By Tim Hicks, Parkinson, Hazlewood, Lynn, Moody, Vital, Cepicky, Miller, Littleton, Lafferty, Helton, Mannis, Grills, Sherrell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, relative to occupational teaching licenses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 5, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) To be eligible to receive a practitioner occupational teaching license, a person must:

(1) Have a minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last ten (10) years, or three (3) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last five (5) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent educational attainment, as defined by the department of education;

(2) Hold an active industry license or credential, including those issued by any state, for the area of endorsement, as defined by the department of education;

(3) Meet the requirements established by rule by the state board of education;  
and

(4)(A) Be enrolled in a state board-approved educator preparation program with a job-embedded clinical practice;

(B) Have completed a state board-approved educator preparation program; or

(C) Provide proof of pairing with a highly effective mentor teacher and completion of coursework in classroom management, pedagogy, serving students with disabilities and English learners, and the teacher code of ethics as set forth in § 49-5-5615, from a state board-approved educator preparation program.

(b) An educator who is issued a practitioner occupational teaching license pursuant to this section shall meet all requirements for license advancement and renewal established by state board of education rules.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-5-106, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

( ) After a director of schools or a director of a public charter school notifies the director's local board of education or the governing body of the director's public charter school, as applicable, that the LEA or public charter school is unable to secure a qualified occupational educator with a valid occupational teaching license for course of study in which a vacancy exists, the director of schools or the director of the public charter school may certify the same to the commissioner of education. Upon the commissioner's receipt of the certification, the commissioner may grant, on behalf of the state board of education, under conditions prescribed in the state board's rules, a temporary permit to teach in the unfilled

position to a person recommended by the director of schools or the director of the public charter school, who does not hold a bachelor's degree or an active industry license or credential, including those issued by any state, for the area of endorsement, as defined by the department of education, but who has a minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last ten (10) years, or three (3) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last five (5) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent educational attainment, as defined by the department of education. The temporary permit is valid only until June 30 immediately following the date of the permit's issuance; the temporary permit is not renewable; and an individual may only be issued one (1) temporary permit.

SECTION 3. For purposes of promulgating rules, this act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act takes effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

SENATE BILL NO. 2442

PASSED: April 28, 2022

  
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RANDY McNALLY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
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CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2022

  
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BILL LEE, GOVERNOR