

HOUSE BILL 2703

By White

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1 and Title 49, Chapter 5, relative to educator licenses.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) The department of education shall design and adopt a certificate of licensure for issuance to educators who have met the requirements for licensure established by the state board of education.

(b) A certificate of licensure must:

(1) State the:

- (A) Full name of the educator;
- (B) Date on which the certificate of licensure was issued;
- (C) Date on which the certificate of licensure expires;
- (D) Type of license issued to the educator;
- (E) Educator's areas of endorsement;
- (F) Reference number for the certificate of licensure; and
- (G) Highest level of education attained by the educator as of the date on which the certificate of licensure was issued;

(2) Bear the signature of the governor and of the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, under the name and seal of the state of Tennessee;

(3) State that the educator has met all of the requirements established by the state board of education and is authorized to serve in the public schools of Tennessee as indicated on the educator's certificate of licensure; and

(4) Present the information required in subdivisions (b)(1)-(3) in a format suitable for framing by the educator.

(c) The department shall provide an educator with a certificate of licensure printed on paper designed to demonstrate the significance of the educator's achievement upon the educator's request and upon the educator's payment of a fee, if any, prescribed by the commissioner to offset the cost of providing the printed certificate.

(d) The department shall provide access through the department's online educator licensing portal for an educator to view and print a high-resolution color copy of the educator's certificate of licensure at no cost to the educator.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to educator licenses issued or renewed by the department on or after that date.