

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 34

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**Authors:** Erickson, S.

**Subject:** Requiring persons to pass the basic skills examination or attain minimum SAT or ACT scores before enrolling in a teacher preparation program

**Analyst:** Lisa Larson, 651-296-8035

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### Overview

The 2012 legislature amended the laws governing teacher preparation programs by requiring teacher candidates to pass a basic skills exam before receiving an initial teaching license. Previously, the Minnesota Board of Teaching had the option of issuing up to three temporary one-year teaching licenses to new teachers who failed the basic skills exam so they might have additional time to take and pass the exam. This bill proposes to require persons, beginning January 1, 2015, to pass the basic skills exam or to attain either minimum SAT scores in critical reading, math, and writing or comparable minimum ACT scores in English language, reading, and math, as determined by the Board of Teaching, before they enroll in a teacher preparation program.

### Section

- 1 License and rules.** Directs the Board of Teaching to adopt rules requiring persons, beginning January 1, 2015, to pass a basic skills exam or to attain either minimum SAT scores in critical reading, math, and writing or comparable minimum ACT scores in English language, reading, and math, as determined by the Board of Teaching, before enrolling in a teacher preparation program.
- 2 Teacher and support personnel qualifications.** Directs the Board of Teaching to require persons entering a teacher preparation program before January 1, 2015, to pass a basic skills exam before being granted an initial teaching license. Requires persons entering a teacher preparation program beginning January 1, 2015, to pass a basic skills exam or to attain either

**Section**

minimum SAT scores in critical reading, math, and writing or comparable minimum ACT scores in English language, reading, and math, as determined by the Board of Teaching, before being admitted to the program.