

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 171
Version: As introduced

DATE: February 5, 2013

Authors: Ward, John

Subject: Repealing the requirement that teacher candidates pass a basic skills exam before receiving a teaching license

Analyst: Lisa Larson, 652-296-8036

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd/.

Overview

The 2012 legislature amended the laws governing teacher preparation programs to require 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 remove the requirement that teacher candidates pass a basic skills test.

Section

- 1 License and rules.** (b) Strikes language directing the Board of Teaching to require persons to pass a basic skills exam as a condition of receiving an initial teaching license.

Makes technical changes.

Makes this section immediately effective and applicable to any teacher candidate who has not yet passed the basic skills exam.

- 2 Teacher and support personnel qualifications.** (b) Strikes language directing the Board of Teaching to require persons to pass a basic skills exam as a condition of receiving an initial teaching license; and strikes language requiring teacher preparation programs and institutions to provide remedial assistance to teacher candidates who did not pass the basic skills exam. Also strikes language directing the Board of Teaching to annually report information about candidates' basic skills scores to the legislature.

Section

Makes technical changes.

Makes this section immediately effective and applicable to any teacher candidate who has not yet passed the basic skills exam.

3 **Reading strategies.** Makes a technical change.

Makes the section immediately effective.

4 **Applicants licensed in other states.** Strikes language directing the Board of Teaching to require teacher applicants licensed in another state to pass the basic skills exam before receiving a Minnesota teaching license or within one year while holding a temporary teaching license.

Makes this section immediately effective and applicable to any teacher candidate who has not yet passed the basic skills exam.

5 **Requirements.** Strikes language requiring a candidate in an alternative teacher preparation program to pass a basic skills exam as a condition of participating in the program.

Makes this section immediately effective and applicable to any teacher candidate who has not yet passed the basic skills exam.

6 **Standard license.** Makes a technical change.

Makes the section immediately effective.