

S.F. No. 1473 – Removing Barriers to Teacher Licensure

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Section 1. [122A.09] Permissions. Allows the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB) to grant permission to a licensed teacher in an alternative education program to instruct students in a content area for which the teacher is not licensed.

Section 2. [122A.181] Exemptions from a bachelor's degree. Expands the list of applicants for a Tier 1 teaching license from the requirement to hold a bachelor's degree to include persons teaching world languages and culture, and the performing or visual arts. Directs PELSB to adopt rules.

Section 3. [122A.181] Application. Allows PELSB to review Tier 1 licensure applications before July 1.

Section 4. [122A.182] Requirements. Requires a Tier 2 license application to be submitted jointly by the applicant and the district and paid for by the applicant or district. Strikes the provision allowing a candidate to obtain a Tier 2 license without a bachelor's degree and recodifies it in the next section.

Section 5. [122A.182] Exemptions from a bachelor's degree. Expands the list of applicants exempt for the requirement to hold a bachelor's degree for a Tier 2 license to include teachers of world languages and culture, and the performing or visual arts. Requires PELSB to adopt rules.

Section 6. [122A. 183] Requirements. Strikes a provision allowing a Tier 3 licensure candidate to obtain a Tier 3 license without a bachelor's degree.

Section 7. [122A.183] Coursework. Allows field-specific teacher experience to substitute for field-specific student teaching experience for a teacher licensed in another state.

Section 8. [122A.183] Exemptions from a bachelor's degree. Expands the list of applicants exempt from the requirement to hold a bachelor's degree for a Tier 3 license to include persons teaching world languages and culture, and the performing or visual arts. Requires PELSB to adopt rules.

Section 9. [122A.184] Requirements. Requires an applicant for a Tier 4 license to have field-specific teaching experience from any state, not just Minnesota, and complete Tier 3 renewal requirements if the applicant previously held a Tier 3 license. Strikes the requirement that the candidate's most recent summative evaluation must not have placed the candidate on an improvement process.

Section 10. [122A.185] Tests. Eliminates the following tests: skills in reading, writing, and math for a Tier 4 license to provide direct instruction in elementary, secondary, or special education programs; pedagogy and content exams for an applicant that has completed a PELSB-approved or state-approved teacher preparation program; and reading instruction for Tier 3 and 4 licenses to teach elementary students. Directs PELSB to adopt performance assessments as an alternative to examinations of pedagogical knowledge and content.

Section 11. [122A.185] Remedial assistance. Strikes the requirement that PELSB-approved teacher preparation programs provide students remedial assistance if they don't pass the skills exam.

Section 12. [122A.441] Short-call substitute teacher pilot program. Establishes a pilot program for short-call substitute teaching licenses. Requires the applicant to hold an associate degree and receive substitute training or hold a high school diploma and have been employed as an education support personnel or paraprofessional within the district or charter school for at least one academic year. Allows PELSB to issue a temporary teaching license pending a background check.

Section 13. [122A.635] Grant program administration. Requires collaborative urban educator and greater Minnesota educator of color (CUGMEC) grants to be awarded for a two-year grant period. Strikes obsolete language.

Section 14. [122A.635] Report. Modifies the reporting date for an institution that receives a CUGMEC grant and for PELSB's summary report.

Section 15. [122A.70] Grant administration. Allows PELSB to enter into an interagency agreement with the Office of Higher Education of the Department of Education to administer the teacher mentorship and retention of effective teachers grants.

Section 16. Repealer. Repeals **Minnesota Rules, part 87100.0500, subparts 8 and 11** on teacher licensure exams.