

BILL SUMMARY

OVERVIEW

This bill supports vital operations, including the ability to process and issue teaching licenses in a timely manner.

The bill supports the continuation of alternative pathways, such as licensure via portfolio and the heritage language pathway, which are increasingly important as we address the teacher shortage.

The bill streamlines state grants programs by transferring them to MDE's Educator Workforce Division.

Lastly, this bill removes the requirement to attempt, but not pass, a test before renewing a Tier 1 license, expediting the renewal process.

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE: JURISDICTION AND CAPACITY

- BOSA funding to support processing of administrative licenses by BOSA
- Transfer grantmaking duties to MDE
- Transfer responsibility to administer the paraprofessional credential to MDE in alignment with their jurisdiction

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE: PELSB STAFFING AND SUPPORTS

- Ensure PELSB will remain fully staffed to process licenses and fully funded to review teacher licensure programs and portfolios
- Fund programs to support teachers in shortage areas (e.g. portfolio cohorts, heritage language pathways programs)
- Ensure PELSB has funding for MN.IT maintenance costs

RENEWAL/TECHNICAL CHANGES

- Eliminate outdated references to licensure exams and redundant reporting requirements
- Remove the requirement to attempt a content exam for teachers seeking to renew a Tier 1 license

