

By: Thimesch

H.B. No. 159

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a temporary educator certificate for educators certified by other states.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 21, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 21.0521 to read as follows:

Sec. 21.0521. TEMPORARY CERTIFICATION OF EDUCATORS FROM OUTSIDE THIS STATE. (a) The board shall:

(1) establish a temporary educator certificate for educators certified by other states; and

(2) immediately issue a certificate described by Subdivision (1) to a person who applies for a certificate issued under Section 21.052.

(b) The board may rescind a temporary educator certificate issued to a person under this section if the board determines as a result of a review of the person's credentials that the person does not meet the eligibility requirements under Subsection (c).

(c) To be eligible for a temporary educator certificate issued under this section, a person must:

(1) hold a valid, unexpired, non-temporary certificate or similar credential in another state that qualifies the person to be employed as an educator in that state; and

(2) hold a bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education that is, and at the time the person received the

1 degree was, accredited.

2 (d) Except as provided by Subsection (e), a temporary
3 educator certificate issued under this section expires on the
4 earlier of:

5 (1) the first anniversary of the date the certificate
6 is issued; or

7 (2) the date the person is issued a certificate under
8 Section 21.052.

9 (e) A temporary educator certificate issued under this
10 section to an educator who is the spouse of a person serving on
11 active duty as a member of the armed forces of the United States, as
12 those terms are defined by Section 55.001, Occupations Code,
13 expires on the third anniversary of the date the certificate is
14 issued or a later date specified by board rule.

15 (f) A temporary educator certificate issued under this
16 section may not be reissued or renewed.

17 SECTION 2. Sections 21.052(c), (d), (d-1), (e), and (i)(1)
18 and (2), Education Code, are repealed.

19 SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date
20 of this Act, the State Board for Educator Certification shall adopt
21 rules necessary to implement Section 21.0521, Education Code, as
22 added by this Act.

23 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
25 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
26 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
27 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the

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1 legislative session.