

By: Harris of Anderson

H.B. No. 2729

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 2729:

By: Buckley

C.S.H.B. No. 2729

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to teacher requirements for high quality prekindergarten
3 programs.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 29.167, Education Code, is amended by
6 amending Subsections (b) and (d) and adding Subsections (b-1) and
7 (b-2) to read as follows:

8 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (b-1), each ~~Each~~
9 teacher for a prekindergarten program class must:

10 (1) be certified under Subchapter B, Chapter 21; and

11 (2) have one of the following additional
12 qualifications:

13 (A) a Child Development Associate (CDA)
14 credential or another early childhood education credential
15 approved by the agency;

16 (B) certification offered through a training
17 center accredited by Association Montessori Internationale or
18 through the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher
19 Education;

20 (C) at least eight years' experience of teaching
21 in a nationally accredited child care program or a Texas Rising Star
22 Program;

23 (D) be employed as a prekindergarten teacher in a
24 school district that has received approval from the commissioner

1 for the district's prekindergarten-specific instructional training
2 plan that the teacher uses in the teacher's prekindergarten
3 classroom; or

4 (E) an equivalent qualification.

5 (b-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (b), each teacher for a
6 prekindergarten class provided by an entity with which a school
7 district contracts to provide a prekindergarten program must:

8 (1) be supervised by a person who meets the
9 requirements under Subsection (b); and

10 (2) have one of the qualifications described by
11 Subsection (b)(2).

12 (b-2) A person who supervises a prekindergarten teacher as
13 described by Subsection (b-1) may supervise multiple
14 prekindergarten classes.

15 (d) A school district or an entity with which the district
16 contracts to provide a prekindergarten program must attempt to
17 maintain an average ratio in any prekindergarten program class of
18 not less than one qualified [~~certified~~] teacher or teacher's aide
19 for each 11 students.

20 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2023-2024
21 school year.

22 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
23 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
24 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
25 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
26 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.