

1-1 By: Harris of Anderson (Senate Sponsor - Creighton) H.B. No. 2729
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 3, 2023;
 1-3 May 5, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Education; May 12, 2023, reported adversely, with favorable
 1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 12, Nays 1;
 1-6 May 12, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

| | Yea | Nay | Absent | PNV |
|------|-----|-----|--------|-----|
| 1-8 | | | | |
| 1-9 | X | | | |
| 1-10 | X | | | |
| 1-11 | X | | | |
| 1-12 | X | | | |
| 1-13 | X | | | |
| 1-14 | X | | | |
| 1-15 | X | | | |
| 1-16 | | X | | |
| 1-17 | X | | | |
| 1-18 | X | | | |
| 1-19 | X | | | |
| 1-20 | X | | | |
| 1-21 | X | | | |

1-22 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 2729 By: Birdwell

1-23 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-24 AN ACT

1-25 relating to teacher requirements for high quality prekindergarten
 1-26 programs.

1-27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-28 SECTION 1. Section 29.167, Education Code, is amended by
 1-29 amending Subsections (b) and (d) and adding Subsections (b-1) and
 1-30 (b-2) to read as follows:

1-31 (b) Each teacher for a prekindergarten program class must:

1-32 (1) be certified under Subchapter B, Chapter 21; and
 1-33 (2) have one of the following additional
 1-34 qualifications:

1-35 (A) an associate or baccalaureate degree in early
 1-36 childhood education or a related field;

1-37 (B) a Child Development Associate (CDA)
 1-38 credential or another early childhood education credential
 1-39 approved by the agency;

1-40 (C) [~~(B)~~] certification offered through a
 1-41 training center accredited by Association Montessori
 1-42 Internationale or through the Montessori Accreditation Council for
 1-43 Teacher Education;

1-44 (D) [~~(C)~~] at least eight years' experience of
 1-45 teaching in a nationally accredited child care program or a Texas
 1-46 Rising Star Program;

1-47 (E) [~~(D)~~] be employed as a prekindergarten
 1-48 teacher in a school district that has received approval from the
 1-49 commissioner for the district's prekindergarten-specific
 1-50 instructional training plan that the teacher uses in the teacher's
 1-51 prekindergarten classroom; or

1-52 (F) [~~(E)~~] an equivalent qualification.

1-53 (b-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (b), each teacher for a
 1-54 prekindergarten class provided by an entity with which a school
 1-55 district contracts to provide a prekindergarten program must:

1-56 (1) be supervised by a person who meets the
 1-57 requirements under Subsection (b); and

1-58 (2) have one of the following qualifications:

1-59 (A) at least two years' experience of teaching in
 1-60 a nationally accredited child care program or a Texas Rising Star

2-1 Program and:
2-2 (i) a Child Development Associate (CDA)
2-3 credential or another early childhood education credential
2-4 approved by the agency; or
2-5 (ii) certification offered through a
2-6 training center accredited by Association Montessori
2-7 Internationale or through the Montessori Accreditation Council for
2-8 Teacher Education; or
2-9 (B) a qualification described by Subsection
2-10 (b)(2)(A), (D), (E), or (F).
2-11 (b-2) A person who supervises a prekindergarten program
2-12 provided by an entity with which a school district contracts for
2-13 that purpose may supervise multiple prekindergarten classrooms to:
2-14 (1) ensure programmatic compliance; and
2-15 (2) support:
2-16 (A) classroom instruction;
2-17 (B) the developmental needs of students; and
2-18 (C) continuous quality improvement, including
2-19 professional development.
2-20 (d) A school district or an entity with which the district
2-21 contracts to provide a prekindergarten program must attempt to
2-22 maintain an average ratio in any prekindergarten program class of
2-23 not less than one qualified [~~certified~~] teacher or teacher's aide
2-24 for each 11 students.
2-25 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2023-2024
2-26 school year.
2-27 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-28 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-29 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-30 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-31 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

2-32 * * * * *