

By: Villarreal

H.B. No. 2060

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to teacher certification in early childhood education.

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

SECTION 1. Section 21.050, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(b) The board may not require more than 18 semester credit hours of education courses at the baccalaureate level for the granting of a teaching certificate. The board shall provide for a minimum number of semester credit hours of internship to be included in the hours needed for certification. The board may propose rules requiring additional credit hours for certification in bilingual education, English as a second language[, ~~early childhood education~~], or special education.

(d) The board shall propose rules requiring that any certification in early childhood education, or in primary school education combined with early childhood education, include a minimum number of semester credit hours of education courses and internships emphasizing early childhood development. The rules must allow comparable work experience with a child-care facility or federal Head Start program to satisfy the internship requirement under this subsection. In this subsection, "child-care facility" has the meaning assigned by Section 42.002, Human Resources Code.

SECTION 2. The State Board for Educator Certification shall

1 propose the rules required by Section 21.050(d), Education Code, as  
2 added by this Act, not later than December 1, 2003.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.