

1-1 By: Van de Putte S.B. No. 2206
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 13, 2009; March 31, 2009, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education; April 24, 2009,
1-4 reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; April 24, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 2206 By: Van de Putte

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to certification of an educator in Texas who is certified
1-10 in another state or country.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Section 21.052, Education Code, is amended by
1-13 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (e), (f), (g), and
1-14 (h) to read as follows:

1-15 (a) The board may issue a certificate to an educator who
1-16 applies for a certificate and:

1-17 (1) holds:

1-18 (A) a degree issued by an institution accredited
1-19 by a regional accrediting agency or group that is recognized by a
1-20 nationally recognized accreditation board; or

1-21 (B) a degree issued by an institution located in
1-22 a foreign country, if the degree is equivalent to a degree described
1-23 by Paragraph (A);

1-24 (2) holds an appropriate certificate or other
1-25 credential issued by another state or country; and

1-26 (3) performs satisfactorily on:

1-27 (A) the examination prescribed under Section
1-28 21.048; or

1-29 (B) if the educator holds a certificate or other
1-30 credential issued by another state or country, an examination
1-31 similar to and at least as rigorous as that described by Paragraph
1-32 (A) administered to the educator under the authority of that state.

1-33 (e) An educator who receives a certificate as provided by
1-34 Subsection (a) must perform satisfactorily on the examination
1-35 prescribed under Section 21.048 not later than the first
1-36 anniversary of the date the certificate under Subsection (a) was
1-37 issued.

1-38 (f) The board shall post on the board's Internet website the
1-39 procedures for obtaining a certificate under Subsection (a).

1-40 (g) The commissioner shall provide guidance to school
1-41 districts that employ an educator certified as provided by
1-42 Subsection (a) on procedures to classify the educator as a highly
1-43 qualified teacher in a manner consistent with the No Child Left
1-44 Behind Act of 2001 (20 U.S.C. Section 6301 et seq.).

1-45 (h) This subsection applies only to an applicant who holds a
1-46 certificate or other credential issued by another state or country
1-47 in mathematics, science, special education, or bilingual education
1-48 or another subject area that the commissioner determines has a
1-49 shortage of teachers. In any state fiscal year, the board shall
1-50 accept or reject, not later than the 14th day after the date the
1-51 board receives the completed application, at least 90 percent of
1-52 the applications the board receives for a certificate under this
1-53 subsection, and shall accept or reject all completed applications
1-54 the board receives under this subsection not later than the 30th day
1-55 after the date the board receives the completed application. An
1-56 applicant under this subsection must submit:

1-57 (1) a letter of good standing from the state or country
1-58 in which the teacher is certified on a form determined by the board;

1-59 (2) information necessary to complete a national
1-60 criminal history record information review; and

1-61 (3) an application fee as required by the board.

1-62 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-63 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

2-1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-3 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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