

By: Howard of Fort Bend

H.B. No. 1549

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certification and continuing education requirements  
for certain public education administrators.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 21, Education Code, is  
amended by adding Section 21.0461 to read as follows:

Sec. 21.0461. TEMPORARY CERTIFICATE FOR SUPERINTENDENT OR  
PRINCIPAL. (a) The board may issue a temporary certificate under  
this section for:

(1) assistant principal;

(2) principal; or

(3) superintendent.

(b) A candidate for certification under this section must:

(1) hold a baccalaureate or advanced degree from an  
institution of higher education;

(2) have significant management and leadership  
experience, as determined by the board of trustees of the school  
district that will employ the person under the temporary  
certificate; and

(3) perform satisfactorily on the appropriate  
examination prescribed under Section 21.048.

(c) A school district may require that a person who is  
employed by the district and who holds a certificate issued under  
this section complete a training program.

1       (d) A certificate issued to a person under this section is  
2 valid only in the school district in which the person is initially  
3 employed after receiving the certificate.

4       (e) A certificate issued under this section:

5           (1) expires on the third anniversary of the date on  
6 which the certificate was issued; and

7           (2) is not renewable.

8       (f) The board shall issue a standard certificate to a person  
9 who holds a temporary certificate issued under this section if the  
10 school district employing the person under the temporary  
11 certificate:

12           (1) has employed the person for at least three years in  
13 the capacity for which the person seeks a standard certificate; and

14           (2) has recommended the person to the board and  
15 favorably reviewed, primarily using objective measures of student  
16 performance and improvement in the district, the person's  
17 performance.

18       (g) A school district employing a person who holds a  
19 temporary certificate issued under this section must provide the  
20 person with intensive support during the person's first year of  
21 employment with the district, including:

22           (1) mentoring; and

23           (2) intensive, high-quality professional development.

24       (h) For purposes of this section, the board by rule may  
25 determine the criteria a school district board of trustees shall  
26 use to determine whether a candidate for certification under this  
27 section has significant management and leadership experience.

1           SECTION 2. Section 21.054, Education Code, is amended by  
2 adding Subsections (b) and (c) to read as follows:

3           (b) As part of a principal's compliance with continuing  
4 education requirements under this section, a principal must attend  
5 advanced management training courses or programs as prescribed by  
6 board rule.

7           (c) The board, in consultation with business schools,  
8 departments, or programs at institutions of higher education, shall  
9 propose rules to govern the approval and accountability of advanced  
10 management training courses or programs required under this  
11 section. In proposing a rule under this section, the board shall  
12 require that a person conducting a course or program have  
13 recognized expertise in business management.

14           SECTION 3. (a) Section 21.0461, Education Code, as added  
15 by this Act, applies beginning with the 2011-2012 school year.

16           (b) Sections 21.054(b) and (c), Education Code, as added by  
17 this Act, apply beginning with the 2012-2013 school year.

18           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
19 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
20 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
21 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
22 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.