

1-1 By: Huberty, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Zaffirini) H.B. No. 2039
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 3, 2017;
 1-3 May 11, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Education; May 22, 2017, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 7, Nays 2; May 22, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Taylor of Galveston	X			
1-8 Lucio	X			
1-9 Bettencourt	X			
1-10 Campbell	X			
1-11 Hall			X	
1-12 Huffines		X		
1-13 Hughes	X			
1-14 Seliger	X			
1-15 Taylor of Collin		X		
1-16 Uresti	X			
1-17 West			X	

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to creating an early childhood certification to teach
 1-22 students in prekindergarten through grade three.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 21, Education Code, is
 1-25 amended by adding Section 21.0489 to read as follows:

1-26 Sec. 21.0489. EARLY CHILDHOOD CERTIFICATION. (a) To
 1-27 ensure that there are teachers with special training in early
 1-28 childhood education focusing on prekindergarten through grade
 1-29 three, the board shall establish an early childhood certificate.

1-30 (b) A person is not required to hold a certificate
 1-31 established under this section to be employed by a school district
 1-32 to provide instruction in prekindergarten through grade three.

1-33 (c) To be eligible for a certificate established under this
 1-34 section, a person must:

1-35 (1) either:

1-36 (A) satisfactorily complete the course work for
 1-37 that certificate in an educator preparation program, including a
 1-38 knowledge-based and skills-based course of instruction on early
 1-39 childhood education that includes:

1-40 (i) teaching methods for:

1-41 (a) using small group instructional
 1-42 formats that focus on building social, emotional, and academic
 1-43 skills;

1-44 (b) navigating multiple content
 1-45 areas; and

1-46 (c) managing a classroom environment
 1-47 in which small groups of students are working on different tasks;
 1-48 and

1-49 (ii) strategies for teaching fundamental
 1-50 academic skills, including reading, writing, and numeracy; or

1-51 (B) hold an early childhood through grade six
 1-52 certificate issued under this subchapter and satisfactorily
 1-53 complete a course of instruction described by Paragraph (A);

1-54 (2) perform satisfactorily on an early childhood
 1-55 certificate examination prescribed by the board; and

1-56 (3) satisfy any other requirements prescribed by the
 1-57 board.

1-58 (d) The criteria for the course of instruction described by
 1-59 Subsection (c)(1)(A) shall be developed by the board in
 1-60 consultation with faculty members who provide instruction at
 1-61 institutions of higher education in education preparation programs

2-1 for an early childhood through grade six certificate.

2-2 SECTION 2. The State Board for Educator Certification shall
2-3 propose rules:

2-4 (1) establishing requirements and prescribing an
2-5 examination for an early childhood certificate examination as
2-6 required by Section 21.0489, Education Code, as added by this Act;
2-7 and

2-8 (2) establishing standards to govern the approval and
2-9 renewal of approval of educator preparation programs for early
2-10 childhood certification.

2-11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-15 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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