

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 84th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2003  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1512

5 By: Representative Bright  
6 By: Senator J. Jeffress  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO ALLOW THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO  
11 WAIVE EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUALS  
12 SEEKING AN ARKANSAS TEACHING LICENSE WHO HAVE AN  
13 OUT-OF-STATE TEACHING LICENSE AND EXPERIENCE; AND  
14 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

15  
16 AN ACT TO ALLOW THE STATE BOARD OF  
17 EDUCATION TO WAIVE EXAMINATION  
18 REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUALS SEEKING AN  
19 ARKANSAS TEACHING LICENSE WHO HAVE AN  
20 OUT OF STATE TEACHING LICENSE AND  
21 EXPERIENCE.  
22  
23  
24

25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

26  
27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-402 is amended to read as follows:  
28 6-17-402. Rules and regulations — ~~National Teacher's Examination.~~

29 (a)(1) The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules and  
30 regulations for the issuance, ~~certification licensure~~, ~~recertification~~  
31 relicensure, and continuance of ~~certification licensure~~ of teachers in the  
32 public schools of this state.

33 (2) Any person applying for initial ~~certification licensure~~ as a  
34 teacher in the public schools or a ~~certified licensed~~ teacher applying for  
35 ~~certification~~ a license in an additional area shall, in addition to other  
36 requirements, take and complete ~~the National Teacher's Examination or a~~



1 ~~similar~~ an examination designated by the board and submit the scores to the  
2 Department of Education.

3 (b) No applicant for initial ~~certification~~ licensure or ~~certification~~  
4 licensure in an additional area shall receive a ~~certificate~~ license unless  
5 the applicant scores at or above the minimum level set by the board.

6 (c) All colleges and universities in this state shall report the  
7 results of the examinations to the department upon request.

8 (d) The board shall not delegate to any college or university any of  
9 the board's powers or duties pertaining to the issuance, ~~certification~~  
10 licensure, ~~recertification~~ relicensure, and continuance of ~~certification~~  
11 licensure of teachers in public schools in this state.

12 (e) The State Board of Education shall waive the examination  
13 requirements under subsection (a) of this section for individuals applying  
14 for licensure in Arkansas who have a valid out-of-state teaching license and  
15 documented teaching experience as required by the rules and regulations  
16 promulgated by the State Board of Education.

17 (f) For purposes of this section, "certified teaching license"  
18 includes a licensed classroom teacher, administrator, counselor, or  
19 librarian.

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21 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
22 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the state is experiencing a  
23 critical shortage of teachers; that recruiting teachers from out of state  
24 will help eliminate some of the shortage; and that this act is immediately  
25 necessary because the teachers seeking licensure under this act need to be  
26 licensed in Arkansas before the start of the 2003-2004 school year, and the  
27 State Board of Education needs sufficient time to implement a procedure to  
28 license teachers from other states. Therefore, an emergency is declared to  
29 exist and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the  
30 public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

- 31 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;
- 32 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,  
33 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the  
34 bill; or
- 35 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is  
36 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.