

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

Call Item 4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1055

5 By: Representatives Walters, Cleveland
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE TEACHER LICENSURE PROGRAM;
10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12 AN ACT TO AMEND THE TEACHER LICENSURE
13 PROGRAM.
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19 SECTION 1. For the purpose of this act:

20 (1) "Praxis III" means the evaluation of classroom performance
21 of a novice teacher by a trained assessor that utilizes a framework of
22 essential teaching skills in which the novice teacher must demonstrate
23 competency in an authentic classroom setting, the passing of which allows for
24 conversion of an initial license to a five-year standard license; and

25 (2) "Additional areas of licensure" means areas of certification
26 that require additional college courses in order to be certified in certain
27 subject areas.
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29 SECTION 2. (a) By January 1, 2004, the Praxis III assessment shall be
30 eliminated as a requirement for teachers receiving a standard teacher
31 license.

32 (b)(1) By January 1, 2004, the Department of Education shall govern
33 adding additional areas of licensure, including special education,
34 administrators, counselors, and library or media.

35 (2) The department shall design a required program of study for
36 each of the licensure areas under subdivision (b)(1).



1 (c)(1) Universities who have approved grades prekindergarten through
2 four (preK-4) and grades four through eight (4-8) certification programs in
3 place shall be approved to offer a grades prekindergarten through six (preK-
4 6) certification program by adding appropriate middle-level coursework.

5 (2) Universities currently offering grades prekindergarten
6 through four (preK-4) early childhood certification programs approved by the
7 department shall not be required to resubmit these programs for approval when
8 licensure level changes from prekindergarten through four (preK-4) to grades
9 prekindergarten through six (preK-6).

10 (d) Beginning January 1, 2004, the levels of licensure for Arkansas
11 shall be for grades prekindergarten through six (preK-6) and grades seven
12 through twelve (7-12).

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