

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

As Engrossed: H2/24/03 H2/28/03

# A Bill

Act 754 of 2003  
HOUSE BILL 1512

5 By: Representatives Bright, Elliott, Walters, Ferguson, Bledsoe, Hathorn, Hardwick, Mack, Hutchinson,  
6 Creekmore, Parks, Rankin, Chesterfield, Childers, Borhauer, Penix, Fite, Anderson, Harris, *King*  
7 By: Senators G. Jeffress, J. Jeffress, Broadway  
8  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

11 AN ACT TO *REQUIRE* THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO  
12 WAIVE EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUALS  
13 SEEKING AN ARKANSAS TEACHING LICENSE WHO HAVE AN  
14 OUT-OF-STATE TEACHING LICENSE AND EXPERIENCE; AND  
15 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
16

## Subtitle

17 AN ACT TO *REQUIRE* THE STATE BOARD OF  
18 EDUCATION TO WAIVE EXAMINATION  
19 REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUALS SEEKING AN  
20 ARKANSAS TEACHING LICENSE WHO HAVE AN  
21 OUT OF STATE TEACHING LICENSE AND  
22 EXPERIENCE.  
23  
24  
25

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
27

28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-402 is amended to read as follows:

29 6-17-402. Rules and regulations — ~~National Teacher's Examination.~~

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

34 (2) Any person applying for initial ~~certification~~ licensure as a  
35 teacher in the public schools or a ~~certified~~ licensed teacher applying for  
36 ~~certification~~ a license in an additional area shall, in addition to other



1 requirements, take and complete ~~the National Teacher's Examination or a test~~  
 2 recognized by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and  
 3 approved by the State Board of Education, similar examination designated by  
 4 ~~the board~~ and submit the scores to the Department of Education.

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

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

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

14 (e) The State Board of Education shall waive the examination  
 15 requirements under subsection (a) of this section for individuals applying  
 16 for licensure in Arkansas who have a valid out-of-state teaching license and  
 17 three (3) years documented teaching experience as required by the rules and  
 18 regulations promulgated by the State Board of Education.

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

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

33 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

34 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,  
 35 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the  
 36 bill; or

