

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1512

5 By: Representatives Bright, Elliott, Walters, Ferguson, Bledsoe, Hathorn, Hardwick, Mack, Hutchinson,
6 Creekmore, Parks, Rankin, Chesterfield, King, Childers, Borhauer, Penix, Fite, Anderson, Harris
7 By: Senators G. Jeffress, J. Jeffress, Broadway
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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.
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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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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.

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 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

1 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
2 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

3 */s/ Bright, et al*

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