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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 1137

02/01/2023 Authored by Sencer-Mura, Becker-Finn, Noor, Kozlowski, Edelson and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Education Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to education; increasing the number of heritage language and culture
1.3 teachers; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes,
1.4 chapter 122A.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. 122A.631 SUPPORTING HERITAGE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
1.7 TEACHERS.

1.8 Subdivision 1. Purpose. The purpose of this section is to increase the number of heritage
1.9 language and culture teachers in Minnesota.

1.10 Subd. 2. Definitions. "Heritage language and culture teachers" means teachers with a
1.11 connection to a community's language and culture who use this connection to support
1.12 students as they learn academic content or the language and culture of that particular
1.13 community.

1.14 Subd. 3. Eligibility. Applicants for the heritage language and culture licensure pathway
1.15 program must:

1.16 (1) hold a current license issued by the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards
1.17 Board or meet the criteria for licensure in 122A.181; and

1.18 (2) seek initial, dual, or additional licensure in a heritage language.

1.19 Subd. 4. Heritage language and culture teacher licensure pathway program. (a) The
1.20 Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board shall develop a program to support
1.21 initial and additional licensure for heritage language and culture teachers. The program
1.22 must include:

2.1 (1) a yearlong mentorship program;

2.2 (2) monthly meetings where applicants receive guidance on completing the portfolio
 2.3 process from a portfolio liaison, dedicated specifically to facilitating this program;

2.4 (3) a stipend to cover substitute teachers when meetings take place during the school
 2.5 day;

2.6 (4) a waiver for all portfolio and licensure testing fees; and

2.7 (5) a portfolio review committee created by the board.

2.8 (b) For applicants seeking an initial license in a world language and culture, the applicant
 2.9 must demonstrate meeting the standards of effective practice in Minnesota Rules, part
 2.10 8710.2000 and content-specific pedagogical standards in Minnesota Rules, part 8710.4950,
 2.11 through the portfolio process.

2.12 (c) For applicants seeking a dual license, the applicant must demonstrate meeting the
 2.13 standards of effective practice in Minnesota Rules, part 8710.2000, content-specific
 2.14 pedagogical standards in Minnesota Rules, part 8710.4950, and all standards for the chosen
 2.15 dual license through the portfolio process.

2.16 (d) For applicants seeking an additional license in a world language and culture, the
 2.17 applicant must demonstrate meeting the content-specific pedagogical standards in Minnesota
 2.18 Rules, part 8710.4950.

2.19 **Subd. 5. Heritage language and culture educators seeking a world language**
 2.20 **license. Heritage language and culture teachers seeking a world language and culture license**
 2.21 **pursuant to Minnesota Rules, part 8710.4950, who demonstrate proficiency through one of**
 2.22 **the following may use this proficiency to evidence meeting the required content-specific**
 2.23 **world language and culture standards, which do not include content-specific pedagogical**
 2.24 **standards, for licensure in their heritage language:**

2.25 (1) passing a board-adopted assessment;

2.26 (2) holding a certificate to serve as a translator or interpreter; or

2.27 (3) completing an undergraduate or postbaccalaureate degree from an accredited
 2.28 university where the majority of coursework was taught via the non-English instructional
 2.29 language.

3.1 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

3.2 **Subdivision 1. Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board.** The sums
3.3 indicated in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the Professional Educator
3.4 Licensing and Standards Board for the fiscal years designated. Any balance in the first year
3.5 does not cancel but is available in the second year.

3.6 **Subd. 2. Heritage language and culture teachers.** To support an additional licensure
3.7 pathway program for heritage language and culture teachers under Minnesota Statutes,
3.8 section 122A.631, including funding for a portfolio liaison and funding for substitute teachers
3.9 on meeting days, portfolio fees, licensure fees, and licensure exam fees for 50 program
3.10 participants:

3.11	\$	<u>207,583</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2024</u>
3.12	\$	<u>207,583</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2025</u>