

House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 45 - VETOED

SESSION: 2011 Regular Session

TOPIC: Requiring teacher candidates to pass a basic skills test before being entering a teacher preparation program

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Overview

Candidates for teacher licensure currently have up to three years after receiving an initial teaching license to pass a basic skills test in reading, writing, and math that is a pre-condition of licensure. This conference committee report would require all teacher candidates entering a teacher preparation program on January 1, 2014, or later to pass the basic skills reading, writing, and math test before entering the program. The conference committee report also would allow the Board of Teaching to issue a one-year teaching license to a person who completes a teacher preparation program outside Minnesota, during which time the person must pass the basic skills test.

Section

- 1** **License and rules.** (b) Directs the Board of Teaching to adopt rules requiring persons interested in becoming teacher candidates, beginning January 1, 2014, to pass the basic skills reading, writing, and math exam before entering the program. Strikes language requiring postsecondary teacher preparation institutions and programs to offer remedial assistance to candidates who do not pass the basic skills reading, writing, and math test.

(e) Makes technical changes.
- 2** **Teacher and support personnel qualifications.** (b) Requires teacher candidates who enter a teacher preparation program before January 1, 2014, to pass a reading, writing, and math basic skills test before being granted an initial teaching license. Requires teachers who enter a teacher preparation program on January 1, 2014, or later to pass the reading, writing, and math basic skills test before entering the program. Strikes language requiring postsecondary teacher preparation institutions and programs to offer remedial assistance to candidates, including candidates for whom English is a second language, who do not pass the basic

skills reading, writing, and math test. Directs the Board of Teaching to issue a one-year Minnesota teaching license to an otherwise qualified person who completed an out-of-state teacher preparation program and require the person during that one-year period to take and pass the state's basic skills reading, writing, and math exam. Makes technical changes.

(c) Strikes language allowing a new teacher to teach for up to three years without first having passed the reading, writing, and math basic skills test that is a condition of licensure.

(c) Allows the Board of Teaching to grant continuing licenses only to eligible persons who have passed the basic skills test.

- 3 Applicants licensed in other states.** Adds a cross reference to indicate that applicants for a Minnesota teaching license who were trained in other states must take and pass the state's basic skills reading, writing, and math exam during the term of their one-year temporary teaching license.