

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Allowing the Board of Teaching to approve innovative, research-based teacher preparation and licensure programs

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Overview

Given a current statutory direction to redesign teacher education programs and implement new systems of program evaluation, this bill proposes to allow the Board of Teaching to identify the core components needed for it to authorize any teacher preparation program and the performance data it can use to uniformly measure the effectiveness of all teacher preparation programs. The bill authorizes the board to use its rule making authority to establish a two-year limited term license that enables qualified candidates to teach in Minnesota classrooms and work toward full licensure. Repeals the statutory section governing alternative teacher licensure and preparation programs.

Section

- 1** **License and rules.** (o) Allows the state Board of Teaching, consistent with the direction to the board to redesign teacher education programs and implement new systems of program evaluation under paragraph (d) of this section, to adopt rules for approving programs that allow qualified teacher candidates to teach in Minnesota classrooms on a limited-term license. Establishes parameters for these programs:
- a two-year limited-term license to teach in a classroom;
 - a program provider that is either a college or university with a board-approved teacher preparation program or a nonprofit corporation with an education purpose that forms a partnership with a college or university with a board-approved teacher preparation program;
 - selective acceptance of program candidates;
 - a requirement that a program candidate have at least a bachelor's degree and pass all required teacher licensure exams in basic skills, content and pedagogy before

being recommended for a license;

- the program provider and the employer provide the candidate with school-based experiences and supervise, observe, mentor, and evaluate the candidate;
- the candidate's service counts toward meeting the requirements for a probationary teacher;
- the candidate is highly qualified under the No Child Left Behind Act and may be the teacher of record; and
- the candidate completes board-authorized work samples before being recommended for a full license.

Expects the rules to allow the board to issue limited-term licenses to candidates recommended by board-approved, research-based innovative teacher preparation and licensure programs. Also expects the rules to allow the board to initially approve a program provider and make continuing approval contingent on the program provider meeting the same program accountability and candidate competency measures as other board-approved program providers.

Makes this section effective for the 2010-2011 school year and later.

- 2** **Repealer.** Repeals Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.24, establishing an alternative preparation licensure program for teachers.

Makes this section effective August 1, 2010.