

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 716  
**Version:** As introduced

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**Authors:** Selcer and others

**Subject:** Clarifying testing requirements for teacher licensure

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### Overview

Creates an exception to the requirement that teacher candidates pass a basic skills reading, writing, and math test before receiving a teaching license. Allows nonnative English language speakers who directly instruct in that other language to take and pass the skills exam at any time up to 36 months after becoming eligible for a teaching license and to hold up to three temporary one-year teaching licenses during that time. Allows out-of-state candidates for a Minnesota teaching license one year to pass the basic skills exam while holding a one-year temporary teaching license.

#### Section

**1 License and rules.** (b) Directs the board of teaching to adopt rules requiring candidates for a teaching license to first pass a reading, writing, and math skills exam. Creates an exception allowing nonnative English language speakers, as verified by school district personnel or higher education faculty, who directly instruct in that other language to take and pass the skills exam at any time up to 36 months after becoming eligible for a teaching license and to hold a temporary teaching license during that time.

(o) Directs the board of teaching to establish an appeals process for nonnative English language speaker candidates who do not pass the basic skills exam. Requires the appeals process to allow a candidate to demonstrate that candidate's competence by an alternative, equally rigorous method.

Makes this section effective immediately.

**2 Teacher and support personnel qualifications.** Directs the board of teaching to require

### **Section**

candidates for a teaching license to first pass a reading, writing, and math skills exam. Allows the board to grant up to three one-year temporary teaching licenses to otherwise qualified nonnative English language speakers, as verified by school district personnel or higher education faculty, who provide direct instruction in that other language but did not pass the basic skills exam. Directs the board to annually report to the legislature on the number of nonnative English language speakers taking the basic skills exam.

(c) Makes conforming changes.

Makes this section effective immediately.

- 3 Applicants licensed in other states.** (h) Allows the board of teaching to issue a temporary one-year teaching license to an other wise eligible applicant who completed a teacher preparation program outside Minnesota and has not passed the reading, writing, and math basic skills test. Requires the applicant to pass the skills exam during that one-year period to be eligible for a continuing license.

Makes this section effective immediately.