



Sen. Dale A. Righter

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10000SB1123sam001

LRB100 07570 MLM 24978 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 1123

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 1123 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 21B-30 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-30)

7 Sec. 21B-30. Educator testing.

8 (a) This Section applies beginning on July 1, 2012.

9 (b) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
10 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall design
11 and implement a system of examinations, which shall be required
12 prior to the issuance of educator licenses. These examinations
13 and indicators must be based on national and State professional
14 teaching standards, as determined by the State Board of
15 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation
16 and Licensure Board. The State Board of Education may adopt

1 such rules as may be necessary to implement and administer this
2 Section.

3 (c) Applicants seeking a Professional Educator License or
4 an Educator License with Stipulations shall be required to pass
5 a test of basic skills before the license is issued, unless the
6 endorsement the individual is seeking does not require passage
7 of the test. All applicants completing Illinois-approved,
8 teacher education or school service personnel preparation
9 programs shall be required to pass the State Board of
10 Education's recognized test of basic skills prior to starting
11 their student teaching or starting the final semester of their
12 internship, unless required earlier at the discretion of the
13 recognized, Illinois institution in which they are completing
14 their approved program. An individual who passes a test of
15 basic skills does not need to do so again for subsequent
16 endorsements or other educator licenses. Applicants shall not
17 be required to pass the test of basic skills before issuance of
18 the license or prior to starting student teaching or the final
19 semester of their internship if the applicant has a grade point
20 average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale in core educator
21 preparation classes at the time the Illinois institution in
22 which the applicant is completing his or her approved program
23 requires the test of basic skills to be taken.

24 (d) All applicants seeking a State license shall be
25 required to pass a test of content area knowledge for each area
26 of endorsement for which there is an applicable test. There

1 shall be no exception to this requirement. No candidate shall
2 be allowed to student teach or serve as the teacher of record
3 until he or she has passed the applicable content area test.

4 (e) (Blank). ~~and completing their student teaching~~
5 ~~experience no later than August 31, 2015 Prior to September 1,~~
6 ~~2015, passage The APT shall be available through August 31,~~
7 ~~2020.~~

8 (f) Except as otherwise provided in this Article, beginning
9 on September 1, 2015, all candidates completing teacher
10 preparation programs in this State and all candidates subject
11 to Section 21B-35 of this Code are required to pass an
12 evidence-based assessment of teacher effectiveness approved by
13 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State
14 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. All recognized
15 institutions offering approved teacher preparation programs
16 must begin phasing in the approved teacher performance
17 assessment no later than July 1, 2013.

18 (g) Tests of basic skills and content area knowledge and
19 the assessment of professional teaching shall be the tests that
20 from time to time are designated by the State Board of
21 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation
22 and Licensure Board, and may be tests prepared by an
23 educational testing organization or tests designed by the State
24 Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator
25 Preparation and Licensure Board. The areas to be covered by a
26 test of basic skills shall include reading, language arts, and

1 mathematics. The test of content area knowledge shall assess
2 content knowledge in a specific subject field. The tests must
3 be designed to be racially neutral to ensure that no person
4 taking the tests is discriminated against on the basis of race,
5 color, national origin, or other factors unrelated to the
6 person's ability to perform as a licensed employee. The score
7 required to pass the tests shall be fixed by the State Board of
8 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation
9 and Licensure Board. The tests shall be administered not fewer
10 than 3 times a year at such time and place as may be designated
11 by the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State
12 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

13 The State Board shall implement a test or tests to assess
14 the speaking, reading, writing, and grammar skills of
15 applicants for an endorsement or a license issued under
16 subdivision (G) of paragraph (2) of Section 21B-20 of this Code
17 in the English language and in the language of the transitional
18 bilingual education program requested by the applicant.

19 (h) Except as provided in Section 34-6 of this Code, the
20 provisions of this Section shall apply equally in any school
21 district subject to Article 34 of this Code.

22 (i) The rules developed to implement and enforce the
23 testing requirements under this Section shall include without
24 limitation provisions governing test selection, test
25 validation and determination of a passing score,
26 administration of the tests, frequency of administration,

1 applicant fees, frequency of applicants taking the tests, the
2 years for which a score is valid, and appropriate special
3 accommodations. The State Board of Education shall develop such
4 rules as may be needed to ensure uniformity from year to year
5 in the level of difficulty for each form of an assessment.

6 (Source: P.A. 98-361, eff. 1-1-14; 98-581, eff. 8-27-13;
7 98-756, eff. 7-16-14; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15; 99-657, eff.
8 7-28-16; 99-920, eff. 1-6-17; revised 1-23-17.)

9 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
10 becoming law."