

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section  
5 21B-20 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-20)

7 Sec. 21B-20. Types of licenses. Before July 1, 2013, the  
8 State Board of Education shall implement a system of educator  
9 licensure, whereby individuals employed in school districts  
10 who are required to be licensed must have one of the following  
11 licenses: (i) a professional educator license; (ii) a  
12 professional educator license with stipulations; or (iii) a  
13 substitute teaching license. References in law regarding  
14 individuals certified or certificated or required to be  
15 certified or certificated under Article 21 of this Code shall  
16 also include individuals licensed or required to be licensed  
17 under this Article. The first year of all licenses ends on June  
18 30 following one full year of the license being issued.

19 The State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
20 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may adopt such  
21 rules as may be necessary to govern the requirements for  
22 licenses and endorsements under this Section.

23 (1) Professional Educator License. Persons who (i)

1 have successfully completed an approved educator  
2 preparation program and are recommended for licensure by  
3 the Illinois institution offering the educator preparation  
4 program, (ii) have successfully completed the required  
5 testing under Section 21B-30 of this Code, (iii) have  
6 successfully completed coursework on the psychology of,  
7 the identification of, and the methods of instruction for  
8 the exceptional child, including without limitation the  
9 learning disabled, (iv) have successfully completed  
10 coursework in methods of reading and reading in the content  
11 area, and (v) have met all other criteria established by  
12 rule of the State Board of Education shall be issued a  
13 Professional Educator License. All Professional Educator  
14 Licenses are valid until June 30 immediately following 5  
15 years of the license being issued. The Professional  
16 Educator License shall be endorsed with specific areas and  
17 grade levels in which the individual is eligible to  
18 practice.

19 Individuals can receive subsequent endorsements on the  
20 Professional Educator License. Subsequent endorsements  
21 shall require a minimum of 24 semester hours of coursework  
22 in the endorsement area, unless otherwise specified by  
23 rule, and passage of the applicable content area test.

24 (2) Educator License with Stipulations. An Educator  
25 License with Stipulations shall be issued an endorsement  
26 that limits the license holder to one particular position

1 or does not require completion of an approved educator  
2 program or both.

3 An individual with an Educator License with  
4 Stipulations must not be employed by a school district or  
5 any other entity to replace any presently employed teacher  
6 who otherwise would not be replaced for any reason.

7 An Educator License with Stipulations may be issued  
8 with the following endorsements:

9 (A) Provisional educator. A provisional educator  
10 endorsement in a specific content area or areas on an  
11 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an  
12 applicant who holds an educator license with a minimum  
13 of 15 semester hours in content coursework from another  
14 state, U.S. territory, or foreign country and who, at  
15 the time of applying for an Illinois license, does not  
16 meet the minimum requirements under Section 21B-35 of  
17 this Code, but does, at a minimum, meet both of the  
18 following requirements:

19 (i) Holds the equivalent of a minimum of a  
20 bachelor's degree, unless a master's degree is  
21 required for the endorsement, from a regionally  
22 accredited college or university or, for  
23 individuals educated in a country other than the  
24 United States, the equivalent of a minimum of a  
25 bachelor's degree issued in the United States,  
26 unless a master's degree is required for the

1 endorsement.

2 (ii) Has passed a test of basic skills and  
3 content area test, as required by Section 21B-30 of  
4 this Code.

5 However, a provisional educator endorsement for  
6 principals may not be issued, nor may any person with a  
7 provisional educator endorsement serve as a principal  
8 in a public school in this State. In addition,  
9 out-of-state applicants shall not receive a  
10 provisional educator endorsement if the person  
11 completed an alternative licensure program in another  
12 state, unless the program has been determined to be  
13 equivalent to Illinois program requirements.

14 Notwithstanding any other requirements of this  
15 Section, a service member or spouse of a service member  
16 may obtain a Professional Educator License with  
17 Stipulations, and a provisional educator endorsement  
18 in a specific content area or areas, if he or she holds  
19 a valid teaching certificate or license in good  
20 standing from another state, meets the qualifications  
21 of educators outlined in Section 21B-15 of this Code,  
22 and has not engaged in any misconduct that would  
23 prohibit an individual from obtaining a license  
24 pursuant to Illinois law, including without limitation  
25 any administrative rules of the State Board of  
26 Education; however, the service member or spouse may

1 not serve as a principal under the Professional  
2 Educator License with Stipulations or provisional  
3 educator endorsement.

4 In this Section, "service member" means any person  
5 who, at the time of application under this Section, is  
6 an active duty member of the United States Armed Forces  
7 or any reserve component of the United States Armed  
8 Forces or the National Guard of any state,  
9 commonwealth, or territory of the United States or the  
10 District of Columbia.

11 A provisional educator endorsement is valid until  
12 June 30 immediately following 2 years of the license  
13 being issued, during which time any remaining testing  
14 and coursework deficiencies must be met. Failure to  
15 satisfy all stated deficiencies shall mean the  
16 individual, including any service member or spouse who  
17 has obtained a Professional Educator License with  
18 Stipulations and a provisional educator endorsement in  
19 a specific content area or areas, is ineligible to  
20 receive a Professional Educator License at that time. A  
21 provisional educator endorsement on an Educator  
22 License with Stipulations shall not be renewed.

23 (B) Alternative provisional educator. An  
24 alternative provisional educator endorsement on an  
25 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an  
26 applicant who, at the time of applying for the

1 endorsement, has done all of the following:

2 (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited  
3 college or university with a minimum of a  
4 bachelor's degree.

5 (ii) Successfully completed the first phase of  
6 the Alternative Educator Licensure Program for  
7 Teachers, as described in Section 21B-50 of this  
8 Code.

9 (iii) Passed a test of basic skills and content  
10 area test, as required under Section 21B-30 of this  
11 Code.

12 The alternative provisional educator endorsement  
13 is valid for 2 years of teaching and may be renewed for  
14 a third year by an individual meeting the requirements  
15 set forth in Section 21B-50 of this Code.

16 (C) Alternative provisional superintendent. An  
17 alternative provisional superintendent endorsement on  
18 an Educator License with Stipulations entitles the  
19 holder to serve only as a superintendent or assistant  
20 superintendent in a school district's central office.  
21 This endorsement may only be issued to an applicant  
22 who, at the time of applying for the endorsement, has  
23 done all of the following:

24 (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited  
25 college or university with a minimum of a master's  
26 degree in a management field other than education.

1           (ii) Been employed for a period of at least 5  
2           years in a management level position in a field  
3           other than education.

4           (iii) Successfully completed the first phase  
5           of an alternative route to superintendent  
6           endorsement program, as provided in Section 21B-55  
7           of this Code.

8           (iv) Passed a test of basic skills and content  
9           area tests required under Section 21B-30 of this  
10          Code.

11          The endorsement may be registered for 2 fiscal  
12          years in order to complete one full year of serving as  
13          a superintendent or assistant superintendent.

14          (D) Resident teacher endorsement. A resident  
15          teacher endorsement on an Educator License with  
16          Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who, at the  
17          time of applying for the endorsement, has done all of  
18          the following:

19               (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited  
20               institution of higher education with a minimum of a  
21               bachelor's degree.

22               (ii) Enrolled in an approved Illinois educator  
23               preparation program.

24               (iii) Passed a test of basic skills and content  
25               area test, as required under Section 21B-30 of this  
26               Code.

1           The resident teacher endorsement on an Educator  
2 License with Stipulations is valid for 4 years of  
3 teaching and shall not be renewed.

4           A resident teacher may teach only under the  
5 direction of a licensed teacher, who shall act as the  
6 resident mentor teacher, and may not teach in place of  
7 a licensed teacher. A resident teacher endorsement on  
8 an Educator License with Stipulations shall no longer  
9 be valid after June 30, 2017.

10           (E) Career and technical educator. A career and  
11 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License  
12 with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who has  
13 a minimum of 60 semester hours of coursework from a  
14 regionally accredited institution of higher education,  
15 ~~has passed a test of basic skills required under~~  
16 ~~Section 21B-30 of this Code,~~ and has a minimum of 2,000  
17 hours of experience in the last 10 years outside of  
18 education in each area to be taught.

19           The career and technical educator endorsement on  
20 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until  
21 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the  
22 endorsement being issued and may be renewed if the  
23 individual passes a test of basic skills, as required  
24 under Section 21B-30 of this Code.

25           (F) Part-time provisional career and technical  
26 educator or provisional career and technical educator.

1 A part-time provisional career and technical educator  
2 endorsement or a provisional career and technical  
3 educator endorsement on an Educator License with  
4 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who has a  
5 minimum of 8,000 hours of work experience in the skill  
6 for which the applicant is seeking the endorsement. It  
7 is the responsibility of each employing school board  
8 and regional office of education to provide  
9 verification, in writing, to the State Superintendent  
10 of Education at the time the application is submitted  
11 that no qualified teacher holding a Professional  
12 Educator License or an Educator License with  
13 Stipulations with a career and technical educator  
14 endorsement is available and that actual circumstances  
15 require such issuance.

16 The provisional career and technical educator  
17 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations  
18 is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of  
19 the endorsement being issued and may be renewed only  
20 one time for 5 years if the individual passes a test of  
21 basic skills, as required under Section 21B-30 of this  
22 Code, and has completed a minimum of 20 semester hours  
23 from a regionally accredited institution.

24 A part-time provisional career and technical  
25 educator endorsement on an Educator License with  
26 Stipulations may be issued for teaching no more than 2

1 courses of study for grades 6 through 12. The part-time  
2 provisional career and technical educator endorsement  
3 on an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until  
4 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the  
5 endorsement being issued and may be renewed for 5 years  
6 if the individual makes application for renewal.

7 (G) Transitional bilingual educator. A  
8 transitional bilingual educator endorsement on an  
9 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued for  
10 the purpose of providing instruction in accordance  
11 with Article 14C of this Code to an applicant who  
12 provides satisfactory evidence that he or she meets all  
13 of the following requirements:

14 (i) Possesses adequate speaking, reading, and  
15 writing ability in the language other than English  
16 in which transitional bilingual education is  
17 offered.

18 (ii) Has the ability to successfully  
19 communicate in English.

20 (iii) Either possessed, within 5 years  
21 previous to his or her applying for a transitional  
22 bilingual educator endorsement, a valid and  
23 comparable teaching certificate or comparable  
24 authorization issued by a foreign country or holds  
25 a degree from an institution of higher learning in  
26 a foreign country that the State Educator

1 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be  
2 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a  
3 regionally accredited institution of higher  
4 learning in the United States.

5 A transitional bilingual educator endorsement  
6 shall be valid for prekindergarten through grade 12, is  
7 valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of  
8 the endorsement being issued, and shall not be renewed.

9 Persons holding a transitional bilingual educator  
10 endorsement shall not be employed to replace any  
11 presently employed teacher who otherwise would not be  
12 replaced for any reason.

13 (H) Language endorsement. In an effort to  
14 alleviate the shortage of teachers speaking a language  
15 other than English in the public schools, an individual  
16 who holds an Educator License with Stipulations may  
17 also apply for a language endorsement, provided that  
18 the applicant provides satisfactory evidence that he  
19 or she meets all of the following requirements:

20 (i) Holds a transitional bilingual  
21 endorsement.

22 (ii) Has demonstrated proficiency in the  
23 language for which the endorsement is to be issued  
24 by passing the applicable language content test  
25 required by the State Board of Education.

26 (iii) Holds a bachelor's degree or higher from

1 a regionally accredited institution of higher  
2 education or, for individuals educated in a  
3 country other than the United States, holds a  
4 degree from an institution of higher learning in a  
5 foreign country that the State Educator  
6 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be  
7 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a  
8 regionally accredited institution of higher  
9 learning in the United States.

10 (iv) Has passed a test of basic skills, as  
11 required under Section 21B-30 of this Code.

12 A language endorsement on an Educator License with  
13 Stipulations is valid for prekindergarten through  
14 grade 12 for the same validity period as the  
15 individual's transitional bilingual educator  
16 endorsement on the Educator License with Stipulations  
17 and shall not be renewed.

18 (I) Visiting international educator. A visiting  
19 international educator endorsement on an Educator  
20 License with Stipulations may be issued to an  
21 individual who is being recruited by a particular  
22 school district that conducts formal recruitment  
23 programs outside of the United States to secure the  
24 services of qualified teachers and who meets all of the  
25 following requirements:

26 (i) Holds the equivalent of a minimum of a

1 bachelor's degree issued in the United States.

2 (ii) Has been prepared as a teacher at the  
3 grade level for which he or she will be employed.

4 (iii) Has adequate content knowledge in the  
5 subject to be taught.

6 (iv) Has an adequate command of the English  
7 language.

8 A holder of a visiting international educator  
9 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations  
10 shall be permitted to teach in bilingual education  
11 programs in the language that was the medium of  
12 instruction in his or her teacher preparation program,  
13 provided that he or she passes the English Language  
14 Proficiency Examination or another test of writing  
15 skills in English identified by the State Board of  
16 Education, in consultation with the State Educator  
17 Preparation and Licensure Board.

18 A visiting international educator endorsement on  
19 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid for 3  
20 years and shall not be renewed.

21 (J) Paraprofessional educator. A paraprofessional  
22 educator endorsement on an Educator License with  
23 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who holds a  
24 high school diploma or its recognized equivalent and  
25 either holds an associate's degree or a minimum of 60  
26 semester hours of credit from a regionally accredited

1 institution of higher education or has passed a test of  
2 basic skills required under Section 21B-30 of this  
3 Code. The paraprofessional educator endorsement is  
4 valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of  
5 the endorsement being issued and may be renewed through  
6 application and payment of the appropriate fee, as  
7 required under Section 21B-40 of this Code. An  
8 individual who holds only a paraprofessional educator  
9 endorsement is not subject to additional requirements  
10 in order to renew the endorsement.

11 (3) Substitute Teaching License. A Substitute Teaching  
12 License may be issued to qualified applicants for  
13 substitute teaching in all grades of the public schools,  
14 prekindergarten through grade 12. Substitute Teaching  
15 Licenses are not eligible for endorsements. Applicants for  
16 a Substitute Teaching License must hold a bachelor's degree  
17 or higher from a regionally accredited institution of  
18 higher education.

19 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for 5 years and  
20 may be renewed if the individual has passed a test of basic  
21 skills, as authorized under Section 21B-30 of this Code. An  
22 individual who has passed a test of basic skills for the  
23 first licensure renewal is not required to retake the test  
24 again for further renewals.

25 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for substitute  
26 teaching in every county of this State. If an individual

1 has had his or her Professional Educator License or  
2 Educator License with Stipulations suspended or revoked or  
3 has not met the renewal requirements for licensure, then  
4 that individual is not eligible to obtain a Substitute  
5 Teaching License.

6 A substitute teacher may only teach in the place of a  
7 licensed teacher who is under contract with the employing  
8 board. If, however, there is no licensed teacher under  
9 contract because of an emergency situation, then a district  
10 may employ a substitute teacher for no longer than 30  
11 calendar days per each vacant position in the district if  
12 the district notifies the appropriate regional office of  
13 education within 5 business days after the employment of  
14 the substitute teacher in the emergency situation. An  
15 emergency situation is one in which an unforeseen vacancy  
16 has occurred and (i) a teacher is unable to fulfill his or  
17 her contractual duties or (ii) teacher capacity needs of  
18 the district exceed previous indications, and the district  
19 is actively engaged in advertising to hire a fully licensed  
20 teacher for the vacant position.

21 There is no limit on the number of days that a  
22 substitute teacher may teach in a single school district,  
23 provided that no substitute teacher may teach for longer  
24 than 90 school days for any one licensed teacher under  
25 contract in the same school year. A substitute teacher who  
26 holds a Professional Educator License or Educator License

1           with Stipulations shall not teach for more than 120 school  
2           days for any one licensed teacher under contract in the  
3           same school year. The limitations in this paragraph (3) on  
4           the number of days a substitute teacher may be employed do  
5           not apply to any school district operating under Article 34  
6           of this Code.

7           (Source: P.A. 97-607, eff. 8-26-11; 97-710, eff. 1-1-13; 98-28,  
8           eff. 7-1-13.)