

Rep. Gregg Johnson

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10300HB5510ham001

LRB103 38174 RJT 71433 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 5510

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 5510 by replacing 3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

"Section 5. Findings. The General Assembly finds that, to address the increasing mental health and behavioral health needs of students in our schools, a new social work associate endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations is needed to expand the availability of qualified social workers to work within school settings. The new endorsement created under this Act is designed for Master of Social Work professionals who hold current licenses issued by the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation under the Clinical Social Work and Social Work Practice Act as either a licensed clinical social worker or a licensed social worker. The intent of this Act is to expand the availability of qualified social workers in our schools, not to replace or supplant professional educator license

- 1 vacancies. This Act is also intended to encourage social work
- associates to pursue a Professional Educator License with a 2
- 3 school support personnel endorsement in the area of school
- 4 social work.
- 5 Section 10. The School Code is amended by changing
- Sections 21B-20, 21B-30, and 21B-40 as follows: 6
- 7 (105 ILCS 5/21B-20)
- 8 Sec. 21B-20. Types of licenses. The State Board of
- 9 Education shall implement a system of educator licensure,
- whereby individuals employed in school districts who are 10
- 11 required to be licensed must have one of the following
- 12 licenses: (i) a professional educator license; (ii)
- 13 license with stipulations; (iii) a substitute educator
- 14 teaching license; or (iv) until June 30, 2028, a short-term
- substitute teaching license. References in law regarding 15
- individuals certified or certificated or required to be 16
- certified or certificated under Article 21 of this Code shall 17
- 18 also include individuals licensed or required to be licensed
- 19 under this Article. The first year of all licenses ends on June
- 20 30 following one full year of the license being issued.
- The State Board of Education, in consultation with the 21
- 22 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may adopt such
- 23 rules as may be necessary to govern the requirements for
- 2.4 licenses and endorsements under this Section.

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(1) Professional Educator License. Persons who (i) successfully completed an approved educator preparation program and are recommended for licensure by the Illinois institution offering the educator preparation program, (ii) have successfully completed the required testing under Section 21B-30 of this Code, (iii) have successfully completed coursework on the psychology of, the identification of, and the methods of instruction for the exceptional child, including, without limitation, children with learning disabilities, (iv) successfully completed coursework in methods of reading and reading in the content area, and (v) have met all other criteria established by rule of the State Board of Education shall be issued a Professional Educator License. All Professional Educator Licenses are valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of the license being issued. The Professional Educator License shall be endorsed with specific areas and grade levels in which the individual is eligible to practice. For an early childhood education endorsement, an individual may satisfy the student teaching requirement of his or her early childhood teacher preparation program through placement in a setting with children from birth through grade 2, and the individual may be paid and receive credit while student teaching. The student teaching experience must meet the requirements of and be approved by the individual's early childhood

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teacher preparation program.

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

(2) Educator License with Stipulations. An Educator License with Stipulations shall be issued an endorsement that limits the license holder to one particular position or does not require completion of an approved educator program or both.

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

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

- (A) (Blank).
- (B) Alternative provisional educator. An alternative provisional educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who, at the time of applying for the endorsement, has done all of the following:
 - (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum of a bachelor's degree.

Т	(11) Successfully completed the first phase of
2	the Alternative Educator Licensure Program for
3	Teachers, as described in Section 21B-50 of this
4	Code.
5	(iii) Passed a content area test, as required
6	under Section 21B-30 of this Code.
7	The alternative provisional educator endorsement is
8	valid for 2 years of teaching and may be renewed for a
9	third year by an individual meeting the requirements set
10	forth in Section 21B-50 of this Code.
11	(C) Alternative provisional superintendent. An
12	alternative provisional superintendent endorsement on
13	an Educator License with Stipulations entitles the
14	holder to serve only as a superintendent or assistant
15	superintendent in a school district's central office.
16	This endorsement may only be issued to an applicant
17	who, at the time of applying for the endorsement, has
18	done all of the following:
19	(i) Graduated from a regionally accredited
20	college or university with a minimum of a master's
21	degree in a management field other than education.
22	(ii) Been employed for a period of at least 5
23	years in a management level position in a field
24	other than education.
25	(iii) Successfully completed the first phase
26	of an alternative route to superintendent

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1 endorsement program, as provided in Section 21B-55 of this Code.

> (iv) Passed a content area test required under Section 21B-30 of this Code.

The endorsement is valid for 2 fiscal years in order to complete one full year of serving as a superintendent or assistant superintendent.

- (D) (Blank).
- (E) Career and technical educator. A career and technical educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who has a minimum of 60 semester hours of coursework from a regionally accredited institution of higher education or an accredited trade and technical institution and has a minimum of 2,000 hours of experience outside of education in each area to be taught.

The career and technical educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of the endorsement being issued and may be renewed.

individual who holds a valid career Αn technical educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations but does not hold a bachelor's degree may substitute teach in career and technical education classrooms.

(F) (Blank).

(G)	Transitional	bilingual	educator.	A			
transition	al bilingual e	educator endo	rsement on	an			
Educator L	License with Sti	pulations may	be issued f	or			
the purpos	se of providing	g instruction	in accordan	се			
with Artic	cle 14C of this	s Code to an	applicant w	ho			
provides s	satisfactory evi	dence that he	e or she mee	ts			
all of the following requirements:							

- (i) Possesses adequate speaking, reading, and writing ability in the language other than English in which transitional bilingual education is offered.
- (ii) Has the ability to successfully communicate in English.
- (iii) Either possessed, within 5 years previous to his or her applying for a transitional bilingual educator endorsement, a valid and comparable teaching certificate or comparable authorization issued by a foreign country or holds a degree from an institution of higher learning in a foreign country that the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher learning in the United States.

A transitional bilingual educator endorsement shall be valid for prekindergarten through grade 12,

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is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of the endorsement being issued, and shall not be renewed.

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

- effort (H) Language endorsement. In an alleviate the shortage of teachers speaking a language other than English in the public schools, individual who holds an Educator License with Stipulations may also apply for а language endorsement, provided that the applicant provides satisfactory evidence that he or she meets all of the following requirements:
 - Holds a transitional bilingual (i) endorsement.
 - Has demonstrated proficiency in the language for which the endorsement is to be issued by passing the applicable language content test required by the State Board of Education.
 - (iii) Holds a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution of higher education or, for individuals educated in a country other than the United States, holds a degree from an institution of higher learning in a

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foreign country that the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution of learning in the United States.

(iv) (Blank).

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

- (I) Visiting international educator. A visiting international educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to individual who is being recruited by a particular school district that conducts formal recruitment programs outside of the United States to secure the services of qualified teachers and who meets all of the following requirements:
 - (i) Holds the equivalent of a minimum of a bachelor's degree issued in the United States.
 - (ii) Has been prepared as a teacher at the grade level for which he or she will be employed.
 - (iii) Has adequate content knowledge in the subject to be taught.

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1 (iv) Has an adequate command of the English 2 language.

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

> A visiting international educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations is valid for 5 years and shall not be renewed.

> (J) Paraprofessional educator. A paraprofessional educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who holds a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent and (i) holds an associate's degree or a minimum of 60 semester hours of credit from a regionally accredited institution of higher education; (ii) has passed a paraprofessional competency test under subsection (c-5) of Section 21B-30; or (iii) is at least 18 years of age and will be using the Educator License with Stipulations exclusively for grades prekindergarten

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through grade 8, until the individual reaches the age of 19 years and otherwise meets the criteria for a paraprofessional educator endorsement pursuant to this subparagraph (J). The paraprofessional educator endorsement is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of the endorsement being issued and may be renewed through application and payment of the appropriate fee, as required under Section 21B-40 of this Code. An individual who holds only paraprofessional educator endorsement is not subject to additional requirements in order to renew the endorsement.

(K) Chief school business official. A chief school business official endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who qualifies by having a master's degree or higher, 2 years of full-time administrative experience in school business management or 2 years of university-approved practical experience, and a minimum of 24 semester hours of graduate credit in a program approved by the State Board of Education for the preparation of school business administrators and by passage of the applicable State tests, including an applicable content area test.

The chief school business official endorsement may also be affixed to the Educator License with

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Stipulations of any holder who qualifies by having a master's degree in business administration, finance, accounting, or public administration and who completes an additional 6 semester hours of internship in school business management from a regionally accredited institution of higher education and passes the applicable State tests, including an applicable content area test. This endorsement shall be required for any individual employed as a chief school business official.

The chief school business official endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until 30 immediately following 5 years of endorsement being issued and may be renewed if the license holder completes renewal requirements required for individuals who hold a Professional Educator License endorsed for chief school business official under Section 21B-45 of this Code and such rules as may be adopted by the State Board of Education.

The State Board of Education shall adopt any rules necessary to implement Public Act 100-288.

(L) Provisional in-state educator. A provisional in-state educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to a candidate who has completed an Illinois-approved educator preparation

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1	program at an Illinois institution of higher education
2	and who has not successfully completed an
3	evidence-based assessment of teacher effectiveness but
4	who meets all of the following requirements:
5	(i) Holds at least a bachelor's degree.
6	(ii) Has completed an approved educator
7	preparation program at an Illinois institution.
8	(iii) Has passed an applicable content area
9	test, as required by Section 21B-30 of this Code.
10	(iv) Has attempted an evidence-based
11	assessment of teacher effectiveness and received a
12	minimum score on that assessment, as established
13	by the State Board of Education in consultation
14	with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
15	Board.
16	A provisional in-state educator endorsement on an
17	Educator License with Stipulations is valid for one
18	full fiscal year after the date of issuance and may not
19	be renewed.
20	(M) (Blank).
21	(N) Specialized services. A specialized services
22	endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations

may be issued as defined and specified by rule.

(O) Provisional career and technical educator. A

provisional career and technical educator endorsement

on an Educator License with Stipulations may be issued

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to an applicant who has a minimum of 8,000 hours of work experience in the skill for which the applicant is seeking the endorsement. Each employing school board and regional office of education shall provide verification, in writing, to the State Superintendent of Education at the time the application is submitted that no qualified teacher holding a Professional Educator License or an Educator License Stipulations with a career and technical educator endorsement is available to teach and that actual circumstances require such issuance.

A provisional career and technical educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of the endorsement being issued and may be renewed.

An individual who holds a provisional career and technical educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations may teach as a substitute teacher in career and technical education classrooms.

- (P) Social work associate. A social work associate endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who meets all of the following requirements:
 - (i) Holds a degree from a graduate program of social work that has been approved by the Council on Social Work Education.

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(ii) Has an active license through the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation under the Clinical Social Work and Social Work Practice Act as either a licensed clinical social worker or a licensed social worker.

A social work associate under this subparagraph (P) shall be authorized to perform responsibilities associated with traditional social work practice, subject to the restrictions in the Clinical Social Work and Social Work Practice Act regarding independent clinical practice, including Tier 1 and Tier 2 interventions in a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS). All responsibilities of a social work associate shall be performed in consultation with an individual who holds a Professional Educator License with a school support personnel endorsement in the area of school social work. A social work associate is not authorized to perform Tier 3 MTSS interventions or participate in the individualized education program process or the federal Section 504 plan process for any student with a disability.

A social work associate under this subparagraph (P) may not be employed by a school district or any other entity to replace any presently employed Professional Educator License holder with a school

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1	support	personnel	endorsement	who	otherwise	would	not
2	be repla	aced for an	y reason.				

An applicant for a social work associate endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations is not required to pass a content area test under Section 21B-30 of this Code.

(3) Substitute Teaching License. A Substitute Teaching License may be issued to qualified applicants for substitute teaching in all grades of the public schools, prekindergarten through grade 12. Substitute Teaching Licenses are not eligible for endorsements. Applicants for a Substitute Teaching License must hold a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution of higher education or must be enrolled in an approved educator preparation program in this State and have earned at least 90 credit hours.

Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for 5 years.

Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for substitute teaching in every county of this State. If an individual has had his or her Professional Educator License or Educator License with Stipulations suspended or revoked, then that individual is not eligible to obtain a Substitute Teaching License.

A substitute teacher may only teach in the place of a licensed teacher who is under contract with the employing board. If, however, there is no licensed teacher under

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contract because of an emergency situation, then a district may employ a substitute teacher for no longer than 30 calendar days per each vacant position in the district if the district notifies the appropriate regional office of education within 5 business days after the employment of the substitute teacher in that vacant position. A district may continue to employ that same substitute teacher in that same vacant position for 90 calendar days or until the end of the semester, whichever greater, if, prior the expiration of is to 30-calendar-day period then current, the district files a written request with the appropriate regional office of education for a 30-calendar-day extension on the basis that the position remains vacant and the district actively seek qualified candidates and continues to provides documentation that it has provided training specific to the position, including training on meeting the needs of students with disabilities and English learners if applicable. Each extension request shall be granted in writing by the regional office of education. An emergency situation is one in which an unforeseen vacancy has occurred and (i) a teacher is unexpectedly unable to fulfill his or her contractual duties or (ii) teacher capacity needs of the district exceed previous indications or vacancies are unfilled due to a lack of qualified candidates, and the district is actively engaged in

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advertising to hire a fully licensed teacher for the vacant position.

There is no limit on the number of days that a substitute teacher may teach in a single school district, provided that no substitute teacher may teach for longer than 120 days beginning with the 2021-2022 school year through the 2022-2023 school year, otherwise 90 school days for any one licensed teacher under contract in the school year. A substitute teacher who holds a Professional Educator License or Educator License with Stipulations shall not teach for more than 120 school days for any one licensed teacher under contract in the same school year. The limitations in this paragraph (3) on the number of days a substitute teacher may be employed do not apply to any school district operating under Article 34 of this Code.

A school district may not require an individual who holds a valid Professional Educator License or Educator License with Stipulations to seek or hold a Substitute Teaching License to teach as a substitute teacher.

(4) Short-Term Substitute Teaching License. Beginning on July 1, 2018 and until June 30, 2028, applicants may apply to the State Board of Education for issuance of a Short-Term Substitute Teaching License. A Short-Term Substitute Teaching License may be issued to a qualified applicant for substitute teaching in all grades of the

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public schools, prekindergarten through grade 12. Short-Term Substitute Teaching Licenses are not eligible for endorsements. Applicants for a Short-Term Substitute Teaching License must hold an associate's degree or have completed at least 60 credit hours from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.

Short-Term Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for substitute teaching in every county of this State. If an individual has had his or her Professional Educator License or Educator License with Stipulations suspended or revoked, then that individual is not eligible to obtain a Short-Term Substitute Teaching License.

The provisions of Sections 10-21.9 and 34-18.5 of this Code apply to short-term substitute teachers.

An individual holding a Short-Term Substitute Teaching License may teach no more than 15 consecutive days per licensed teacher who is under contract. For teacher absences lasting 6 or more days per licensed teacher who is under contract, a school district may not hire an individual holding a Short-Term Substitute Teaching License, unless the Governor has declared a disaster due to a public health emergency pursuant to Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act. An individual holding a Short-Term Substitute Teaching License must complete the training program under Section 10-20.67 or 34-18.60 of this Code to be eligible to teach at a public

- 1 school. Short-Term Substitute Teaching Licenses under this
- Section are valid for 5 years. 2
- (Source: P.A. 102-711, eff. 1-1-23; 102-712, eff. 4-27-22; 3
- 4 102-713, eff. 1-1-23; 102-717, eff. 4-29-22; 102-894, eff.
- 5 5-20-22; 103-111, eff. 6-29-23; 103-154, eff. 6-30-23;
- 103-193, eff. 1-1-24; 103-564, eff. 11-17-23.) 6
- 7 (105 ILCS 5/21B-30)
- 8 Sec. 21B-30. Educator testing.
- 9 (a) (Blank).
- 10 (b) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
- State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall design 11
- 12 and implement a system of examinations, which shall be
- required prior to the issuance of educator licenses. These 13
- 14 examinations and indicators must be based on national and
- 15 State professional teaching standards, as determined by the
- State Board of Education, in consultation with the State 16
- Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. The State Board of 17
- 18 Education may adopt such rules as may be necessary to
- 19 implement and administer this Section.
- (c) (Blank). 2.0
- (c-5) The State Board must adopt rules to implement a 21
- 22 paraprofessional competency test. This test would allow an
- 23 applicant seeking an Educator License with Stipulations with a
- 24 paraprofessional educator endorsement to obtain
- 25 endorsement if he or she passes the test and meets the other

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1 requirements of subparagraph (J) of paragraph (2) of Section 21B-20 other than the higher education requirements. 2

- (d) All applicants seeking a State license shall be required to pass a test of content area knowledge for each area of endorsement for which there is an applicable test. However, no applicant for a Professional Educator License under the short-term approval program for school support personnel under Section 25.432 of Title 23 of the Illinois Administrative Code is required to pass a test of content area knowledge as a requirement for short-term approval, and an applicant for a social work associate endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations is not required to pass a content area test. There shall be no exception to this requirement. No candidate shall be allowed to student teach or serve as the teacher of record until he or she has passed the applicable content area test.
- (d-5) The State Board shall consult with any applicable vendors within 90 days after July 28, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-402) this amendatory Act of the 103rd General Assembly to develop a plan to transition the test of content area knowledge in the endorsement area of elementary education, grades one through 6, by July 1, 2026 to a content test that contains testing elements area that bilingualism, biliteracy, oral language development, foundational literacy skills, and developmentally appropriate higher-order comprehension and on which a valid and reliable

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language and literacy subscore can be determined. The State Board shall base its rules concerning the passing subscore on the language and literacy portion of the test on the recommended cut-score determined in the formal standard-setting process. Candidates need not achieve a particular subscore in the area of language and literacy. The State Board shall aggregate and publish the number of candidates in each preparation program who take the test and the number who pass the language and literacy portion.

(e) (Blank).

(f) Beginning on August 4, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-488) this amendatory Act of the 103rd General Assembly through August 31, 2025, no candidate completing a teacher preparation program in this State or candidate subject to Section 21B-35 of this Code is required to pass a teacher performance assessment. Except as otherwise provided in this Article, beginning on September 1, 2015 until August 4, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-488) this amendatory Act of the 103rd General Assembly and beginning again on September 2025, all candidates completing teacher preparation programs in this State and all candidates subject to Section 21B-35 of this Code are required to pass a teacher performance assessment approved by the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. A candidate may not be required to submit test materials by video submission. Subject to appropriation, an

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- individual who holds a Professional Educator License and is employed for a minimum of one school year by a school district designated as Tier 1 under Section 18-8.15 may, after application to the State Board, receive from the State Board a refund for any costs associated with completing the teacher performance assessment under this subsection.
 - (f-5) The Teacher Performance Assessment Task Force is created to evaluate potential performance-based and objective teacher performance assessment systems for implementation across all educator preparation programs in this State, with the intention of ensuring consistency across programs and supporting a thoughtful and well-rounded licensure system. Members appointed to the Task Force must reflect the racial, ethnic, and geographic diversity of this State. The Task Force shall consist of all of the following members:
 - (1) One member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate.
 - (2) One member of the Senate, appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate.
 - (3) One member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
 - (4) One member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.
- 25 (5) One member who represents a statewide professional 26 teachers' organization, appointed by the State

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- 1 Superintendent of Education.
 - (6) One member who represents a different statewide professional teachers' organization, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (7) One member from a statewide organization representing school principals, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (8) One member from a statewide organization representing regional superintendents of schools, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (9) One member from a statewide organization representing school administrators, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (10) One member representing a school district organized under Article 34 of this Code, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (11) One member of an association representing rural and small schools, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (12) One member representing a suburban school district, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (13) One member from a statewide organization representing school districts in the southern suburbs of the City of Chicago, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.

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- (14) One member from a statewide organization representing large unit school districts, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (15) One member from a statewide organization representing school districts in the collar counties of the City of Chicago, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (16) Three members, each representing a different public university in this State and each a current member of the faculty of an approved educator preparation program, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (17) Three members, each representing a different 4-year nonpublic university or college in this State and each a current member of the faculty of an approved educator preparation program, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (18) One member of the Board of Higher Education, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (19) One member representing a statewide policy organization advocating on behalf of multilingual students and families, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (20) One member representing a statewide organization focused on research-based education policy to support a school system that prepares all students for college, a

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- 1 career, and democratic citizenship, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education. 2
 - (21) Two members representing an early childhood advocacy organization, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (22) One member representing a statewide organization that partners with educator preparation programs and school districts to support the growth and development of preservice teachers, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (23) One member representing a statewide organization that advocates for educational equity and racial justice in schools, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (24) One member representing a statewide organization that represents school boards, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.
 - (25) One member who has, within the last 5 years, served as a cooperating teacher, appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.

Members $\circ f$ the Task Force shall serve compensation. The Task Force shall first meet at the call of the State Superintendent of Education, and each subsequent meeting shall be called by the chairperson of the Task Force, who shall be designated by the State Superintendent of Education. The State Board of Education shall provide

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1 administrative and other support to the Task Force.

On or before August 1, 2024, the Task Force shall report on its work, including recommendations on a teacher performance assessment system in this State, to the State Board of Education and the General Assembly. The Task Force is dissolved upon submission of this report.

The content area knowledge test and the teacher performance assessment shall be the tests that from time to time are designated by the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, and may be tests prepared by an educational testing organization or tests designed by the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. The test of content area knowledge shall assess content knowledge in a specific subject field. The tests must be designed to be racially neutral to ensure that no person taking the tests is discriminated against on the basis of race, color, national origin, or other factors unrelated to the person's ability to perform as a licensed employee. The score required to pass the tests shall be fixed by the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator and Licensure Board. The tests shall administered not fewer than 3 times a year at such time and place as may be designated by the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

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- The State Board shall implement a test or tests to assess
 the speaking, reading, writing, and grammar skills of
 applicants for an endorsement or a license issued under
 subdivision (G) of paragraph (2) of Section 21B-20 of this
 Code in the English language and in the language of the
 transitional bilingual education program requested by the
 applicant.
 - (h) Except as provided in Section 34-6 of this Code, the provisions of this Section shall apply equally in any school district subject to Article 34 of this Code.
- 11 (i) The rules developed to implement and enforce the testing requirements under this Section shall include, without 12 limitation, provisions governing test 13 selection, 14 validation, and determination of a passing 15 administration of the tests, frequency of administration, 16 applicant fees, frequency of applicants taking the tests, the years for which a score is valid, and appropriate special 17 accommodations. The State Board of Education shall develop 18 such rules as may be needed to ensure uniformity from year to 19 20 year in the level of difficulty for each form of an assessment. (Source: P.A. 102-301, eff. 8-26-21; 103-402, eff. 7-28-23; 2.1 103-488, eff. 8-4-23; revised 9-1-23.) 22
- 23 (105 ILCS 5/21B-40)
- 24 Sec. 21B-40. Fees.
- 25 (a) Beginning with the start of the new licensure system

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- established pursuant to this Article, the following fees shall 1 2 be charged to applicants:
 - (1) A \$100 application fee for a Professional Educator License or an Educator License with Stipulations.
 - (1.5) A \$50 application fee for a Substitute Teaching License. If the application for a Substitute Teaching License is made and granted after July 1, 2017, the licensee may apply for a refund of the application fee within 18 months of issuance of the new license and shall be issued that refund by the State Board of Education if the licensee provides evidence to the State Board of Education that the licensee has taught pursuant to the Substitute Teaching License at least 10 full school days within one year of issuance.
 - (1.7) A \$25 application fee for a Short-Term Substitute Teaching License. The Short-Term Substitute Teaching License must be registered in at least one region in this State, but does not require a registration fee. The licensee may apply for a refund of the application fee within 18 months of issuance of the new license and shall be issued that refund by the State Board of Education if the licensee provides evidence to the State Board of Education that the licensee has taught pursuant to the Short-Term Substitute Teaching License at least 10 full school days within one year of issuance. The application fee for a Short-Term Substitute Teaching License shall be

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waived when the Governor has declared a disaster due to a public health emergency pursuant to Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act.

- (2) A \$150 application fee for individuals who have not been entitled by an Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an Illinois institution of higher education and are seeking any of the licenses set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection (a) or for a social work associate endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations.
- (3) A \$50 application fee for each endorsement or approval.
- (4) A \$10 per year registration fee for the course of the validity cycle to register the license, which shall be paid to the regional office of education supervision and control over the school in which the individual holding the license is to be employed. If the individual holding the license is not yet employed, then the license may be registered in any county in this State. The registration fee must be paid in its entirety the first time the individual registers the license for a particular validity period in a single region. additional fee may be charged for that validity period should the individual subsequently register the license in additional regions. An individual must register the license (i) immediately after initial issuance of the

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license and (ii) at the beginning of each renewal cycle if the individual has satisfied the renewal requirements required under this Code.

Beginning on July 1, 2017, at the beginning of each renewal cycle, individuals who hold a Substitute Teaching License may apply for a reimbursement of the registration fee within 18 months of renewal and shall be issued that reimbursement by the State Board of Education from funds appropriated for that purpose if the licensee provides evidence to the State Board of Education that the licensee has taught pursuant to the Substitute Teaching License at least 10 full school days within one year of renewal.

- (5) The license renewal fee for an Educator License with Stipulations with a paraprofessional educator endorsement is \$25.
- (b) All application fees paid pursuant to subdivisions (1) through (3) of subsection (a) of this Section shall be deposited into the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund and shall be used, subject to appropriation, by the State Board of Education to provide the technology and human resources necessary for the timely and efficient processing of applications and for the renewal of licenses. Funds available from the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund may also be used by the State Board of Education to support the recruitment and retention of educators, to support educator preparation programs as they seek national accreditation, and

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provide professional development aligned with requirements set forth in Section 21B-45 of this Code. A majority of the funds in the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund must be dedicated to the timely and efficient processing of applications and for the renewal of licenses. The Teacher Revolving Fund Certificate Fee is not subject administrative charge transfers, authorized under Section 8h of the State Finance Act, from the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund into any other fund of this State, and moneys in the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund shall not revert back to the General Revenue Fund at any time.

The regional superintendent of schools shall deposit the registration fees paid pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of this Section into the institute fund established pursuant to Section 3-11 of this Code.

- (c) The State Board of Education and each regional office of education are authorized to charge a service or convenience fee for the use of credit cards for the payment of license fees. This service or convenience fee shall not exceed the amount required by the credit card processing company or vendor that has entered into a contract with the State Board or regional office of education for this purpose, and the fee must be paid to that company or vendor.
- 24 (d) If, at the time a certificate issued under Article 21 25 of this Code is exchanged for a license issued under this 26 Article, a person has paid registration fees for any years of

- the validity period of the certificate and these years have 1
- not expired when the certificate is exchanged, then those fees 2
- 3 must be applied to the registration of the new license.
- (Source: P.A. 101-81, eff. 7-12-19; 101-570, eff. 8-23-19; 4
- 5 102-867, eff. 5-13-22.)
- 6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
- 7 becoming law.".