

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 and has a minimum of 2,000 hours of experience in the
16 last 10 years outside of education in each area to be
17 taught.

18 The career and technical educator endorsement on
19 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until
20 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the
21 endorsement being issued and may be renewed. For
22 individuals who were issued the career and technical
23 educator endorsement on an Educator License with
24 Stipulations on or after January 1, 2015, the license
25 may be renewed if the individual passes a test of basic
26 skills, as required under Section 21B-30 of this Code.

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

18 The provisional career and technical educator
19 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
20 is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of
21 the endorsement being issued and may be renewed only
22 one time for 5 years. For individuals who were issued
23 the provisional career and technical educator
24 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
25 on or after January 1, 2015, the license may be renewed
26 one time if the individual passes a test of basic

1 skills, as required under Section 21B-30 of this Code,
2 and has completed a minimum of 20 semester hours from a
3 regionally accredited institution.

4 A part-time provisional career and technical
5 educator endorsement on an Educator License with
6 Stipulations may be issued for teaching no more than 2
7 courses of study for grades 6 through 12. The part-time
8 provisional career and technical educator endorsement
9 on an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until
10 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the
11 endorsement being issued and may be renewed for 5 years
12 if the individual makes application for renewal.

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

20 (i) Possesses adequate speaking, reading, and
21 writing ability in the language other than English
22 in which transitional bilingual education is
23 offered.

24 (ii) Has the ability to successfully
25 communicate in English.

26 (iii) Either possessed, within 5 years

1 previous to his or her applying for a transitional
2 bilingual educator endorsement, a valid and
3 comparable teaching certificate or comparable
4 authorization issued by a foreign country or holds
5 a degree from an institution of higher learning in
6 a foreign country that the State Educator
7 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be
8 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a
9 regionally accredited institution of higher
10 learning in the United States.

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

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

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

26 (i) Holds a transitional bilingual

1 endorsement.

2 (ii) Has demonstrated proficiency in the
3 language for which the endorsement is to be issued
4 by passing the applicable language content test
5 required by the State Board of Education.

6 (iii) Holds a bachelor's degree or higher from
7 a regionally accredited institution of higher
8 education or, for individuals educated in a
9 country other than the United States, holds a
10 degree from an institution of higher learning in a
11 foreign country that the State Educator
12 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be
13 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a
14 regionally accredited institution of higher
15 learning in the United States.

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

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

24 (I) Visiting international educator. A visiting
25 international educator endorsement on an Educator
26 License with Stipulations may be issued to an

1 individual who is being recruited by a particular
2 school district that conducts formal recruitment
3 programs outside of the United States to secure the
4 services of qualified teachers and who meets all of the
5 following requirements:

6 (i) Holds the equivalent of a minimum of a
7 bachelor's degree issued in the United States.

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

10 (iii) Has adequate content knowledge in the
11 subject to be taught.

12 (iv) Has an adequate command of the English
13 language.

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

24 A visiting international educator endorsement on
25 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid for 3
26 years and shall not be renewed.

1 (J) Paraprofessional educator. A paraprofessional
2 educator endorsement on an Educator License with
3 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who holds a
4 high school diploma or its recognized equivalent and
5 either holds an associate's degree or a minimum of 60
6 semester hours of credit from a regionally accredited
7 institution of higher education or has passed a test of
8 basic skills required under Section 21B-30 of this
9 Code. The paraprofessional educator endorsement is
10 valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of
11 the endorsement being issued and may be renewed through
12 application and payment of the appropriate fee, as
13 required under Section 21B-40 of this Code. An
14 individual who holds only a paraprofessional educator
15 endorsement is not subject to additional requirements
16 in order to renew the endorsement.

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

25 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for 5 years and
26 may be renewed if the individual has passed a test of basic

1 skills, as authorized under Section 21B-30 of this Code. An
2 individual who has passed a test of basic skills for the
3 first licensure renewal is not required to retake the test
4 again for further renewals.

5 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for substitute
6 teaching in every county of this State. If an individual
7 has had his or her Professional Educator License or
8 Educator License with Stipulations suspended or revoked or
9 has not met the renewal requirements for licensure, then
10 that individual is not eligible to obtain a Substitute
11 Teaching License.

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

1 There is no limit on the number of days that a
2 substitute teacher may teach in a single school district,
3 provided that no substitute teacher may teach for longer
4 than 90 school days for any one licensed teacher under
5 contract in the same school year. A substitute teacher who
6 holds a Professional Educator License or Educator License
7 with Stipulations shall not teach for more than 120 school
8 days for any one licensed teacher under contract in the
9 same school year. The limitations in this paragraph (3) on
10 the number of days a substitute teacher may be employed do
11 not apply to any school district operating under Article 34
12 of this Code.

13 (Source: P.A. 97-607, eff. 8-26-11; 97-710, eff. 1-1-13; 98-28,
14 eff. 7-1-13; 98-751, eff. 1-1-15.)