

Senate Bill No. 352–Committee on Education

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to education; requiring the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to adopt regulations related to paraprofessionals and certain other employees and to student teaching; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

Existing law requires the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to adopt regulations relating to the qualifications to obtain a license to teach in this State. (NRS 391.019) This bill requires the Commission to adopt regulations that: (1) allow a person who is currently employed as a paraprofessional and enrolled in a program to become a teacher to complete an accelerated program of student teaching in the area in which the person is currently employed as a paraprofessional; (2) require the Department of Education to accept a student teaching experience completed in another state or a foreign country if the Department determines that experience substantially fulfills the requirements of a program of student teaching in this State; and (3) allow a person who is currently employed by a public school to provide support or other services relating to school psychology to simultaneously complete a program of internship in psychology.

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** NRS 391.019 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.019 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027, the Commission shall adopt regulations:

(a) Prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and other educational personnel and the procedures for the issuance and renewal of those licenses. The regulations:

(1) Must include, without limitation, the qualifications for licensing teachers and administrators pursuant to an alternative route to licensure which provides that the required education and training may be provided by any qualified provider which has been approved by the Commission, including, without limitation, institutions of higher education and other providers that operate independently of an institution of higher education. The regulations adopted pursuant to this subparagraph must:

(I) Establish the requirements for approval as a qualified provider;

(II) Require a qualified provider to be selective in its acceptance of students;



(III) Require a qualified provider to provide in-person or virtual supervised, school-based experiences and ongoing support for its students, such as mentoring and coaching;

(IV) Significantly limit the amount of course work required or provide for the waiver of required course work for students who achieve certain scores on tests;

(V) Allow for the completion in 2 years or less of the education and training required under the alternative route to licensure;

(VI) Provide that a person who has completed the education and training required under the alternative route to licensure and who has satisfied all other requirements for licensure may apply for a regular license pursuant to sub-subparagraph (VII) regardless of whether the person has received an offer of employment from a school district, charter school or private school; and

(VII) Upon the completion by a person of the education and training required under the alternative route to licensure and the satisfaction of all other requirements for licensure, provide for the issuance of a regular license to the person pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and the regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter.

(2) Must require an applicant for a license to teach middle school or junior high school education or secondary education to demonstrate proficiency in a field of specialization or area of concentration by successfully completing course work prescribed by the Department or completing a subject matter competency examination prescribed by the Department with a score deemed satisfactory.

(3) Must not prescribe qualifications which are more stringent than the qualifications set forth in NRS 391.0315 for a licensed teacher who applies for an additional license in accordance with that section.

(b) Identifying fields of specialization in teaching which require the specialized training of teachers.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.125, requiring teachers to obtain from the Department an endorsement in a field of specialization to be eligible to teach in that field of specialization.

(d) Setting forth the educational requirements a teacher must satisfy to qualify for an endorsement in each field of specialization.

(e) Setting forth the qualifications and requirements for obtaining a license or endorsement to teach American Sign Language, including, without limitation, being registered with the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health



and Human Services pursuant to NRS 656A.100 to engage in the practice of interpreting in an educational setting.

(f) Requiring teachers and other educational personnel to be registered with the Aging and Disability Services Division pursuant to NRS 656A.100 to engage in the practice of interpreting in an educational setting if they:

(1) Provide instruction or other educational services; and

(2) Concurrently engage in the practice of interpreting, as defined in NRS 656A.060.

(g) Prescribing course work on parental involvement and family engagement. The Commission shall work in cooperation with the Office of Parental Involvement and Family Engagement created by NRS 385.630 in developing the regulations required by this paragraph.

(h) Establishing the requirements for obtaining an endorsement on the license of a teacher, administrator or other educational personnel in cultural competency.

(i) Authorizing the Superintendent of Public Instruction to issue a license by endorsement to an applicant who holds an equivalent license or authorization issued by a governmental entity in another country if the Superintendent determines that the qualifications for the equivalent license or authorization are substantially similar to those prescribed pursuant to paragraph (a).

(j) Establishing the requirements for obtaining an endorsement on the license of a teacher, administrator or other educational personnel in teaching courses relating to financial literacy.

*(k) Authorizing a person who is employed as a paraprofessional and enrolled in a program to become a teacher to complete an accelerated program of student teaching in the same or a substantially similar area in which the person is employed as a paraprofessional while remaining employed as a paraprofessional.*

*(l) Requiring the Department to accept a program of student teaching or other teaching experience completed in another state or foreign country by an applicant for a license if the Department determines that the program or experience substantially fulfills the standards of a program of student teaching in this State.*

*(m) Authorizing a person who is employed by a public school to provide support or other services relating to school psychology, if the person does not hold a license or endorsement as a school psychologist but is enrolled in a program that would allow the person to obtain such a license or endorsement, to complete a*



*program of internship in school psychology while remaining employed in such a position.*

2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027, the Commission may adopt such other regulations as it deems necessary for its own government or to carry out its duties.

3. Any regulation which increases the amount of education, training or experience required for licensing:

(a) Must, in addition to the requirements for publication in chapter 233B of NRS, be publicized before its adoption in a manner reasonably calculated to inform those persons affected by the change.

(b) Must not become effective until at least 1 year after the date it is adopted by the Commission.

(c) Is not applicable to a license in effect on the date the regulation becomes effective.

**Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2021.

