



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 311

HOUSE BILL NO. 786

By Representatives Fritts, Cepicky, Wright, Richey, McCalmon, Moody, Butler, Camper, Powers, Davis, Bulso, Reedy, Howell, Lynn, Thompson, Raper, Capley, Powell

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 724

By Senators Hensley, Campbell, Jackson, Rose, Taylor

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 5, relative to occupational teaching licenses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-5-106, is amended by deleting subsection (i) and substituting:

(i)

(1) After a director of schools or a director of a public charter school notifies the director's local board of education or the governing body of the director's public charter school, as applicable, that the LEA or public charter school is unable to secure a qualified occupational educator with a valid occupational teaching license for a course of study in which a vacancy exists, the director of schools or the director of the public charter school may certify the same to the commissioner of education.

(2) Upon the commissioner's receipt of the certification described in subdivision (i)(1), the commissioner may grant, on behalf of the state board of education, under conditions prescribed in the state board's rules, a temporary permit to teach in the unfilled position to a person recommended by the director of schools or the director of the public charter school, who:

(A) Does not hold a bachelor's degree or an active industry license or credential, including those issued by another state, for the area of endorsement, as defined by the department of education, but who has a minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last ten (10) years, or three (3) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last five (5) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent educational attainment, as defined by the department of education; or

(B) Is an honorably discharged veteran of the armed forces, who has a minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last ten (10) years, or three (3) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last five (5) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent educational attainment, as defined by the department of education. As used in this subdivision (i)(2)(B), "work experience" includes, but is not limited to, military service, training, and experience.

(3) A temporary permit issued pursuant to this subsection (i) is valid only until June 30 immediately following the date of the permit's issuance and is not renewable. An individual may only be issued one (1) temporary permit under this subsection (i).

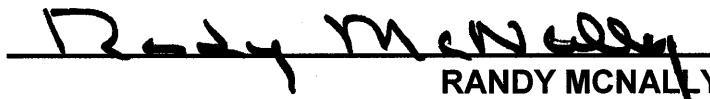
SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2023, at 12:01 a.m., the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 12, 2023



CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RANDY MCNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 28th day of April 2023



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR