SENATE FILE 132

BY McKINLEY

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to testing requirements for applicants for
2   teacher licensure or endorsement.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 272.2, Code 2011, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:
3 NEW SUBSECTION. 19. Adopt rules that require any applicant
4 for a teacher license or for renewal of a teacher license
5 to take the praxis II principles of learning and teaching
6 test for the appropriate grade level and a praxis II teaching
7 foundations test in the appropriate subject area. If the
8 applicant is applying for an Iowa endorsement, the board shall
9 require the applicant to take a praxis II subject assessment
10 for each endorsement the applicant seeks. However, the rules
11 shall exempt an applicant from the testing requirements of this
12 subsection if the applicant provides the board with evidence
13 that the applicant has taken the appropriate praxis II tests
14 and the applicant's scores on the tests meet or exceed the
15 qualifying scores approved by the board.
16   EXPLANATION
17 This bill requires the board of educational examiners to
18 adopt rules requiring that a person who applies to the board
19 of educational examiners for a teacher license, renewal of a
20 teacher license, or for an endorsement to teach in a specific
21 subject area, must take a praxis II principles of learning and
22 teaching test and a praxis II teaching foundations test, as
23 well as a subject assessment for each endorsement the applicant
24 seeks, unless the applicant provides the board with evidence
25 that the applicant has taken the appropriate praxis II tests
26 and the applicant's scores on the tests meet or exceed the
27 qualifying scores approved by the board.
28 The praxis II principles of learning and teaching test
29 measures general pedagogical knowledge. The teaching
30 foundations test measures pedagogy. The subject assessment
31 measures general and subject-specific teaching skills and
32 knowledge.