

House File 161 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 161

BY WILLS

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to subject and performance-based assessments
2 administered prior to a student's completion of a
3 practitioner preparation program, and including effective
4 date and retroactive applicability provisions.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.16, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code
2 2019, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. ~~(1)~~ Administer a preprofessional skills test offered
4 by a nationally recognized testing service to practitioner
5 preparation program admission candidates. Rules adopted shall
6 require institutions to deny admission to the program to any
7 candidate who does not successfully pass the test.

8 ~~(2) Administer, prior to a student's completion of the~~
9 ~~practitioner preparation program and subject to the director's~~
10 ~~approval, subject assessments designed by a nationally~~
11 ~~recognized testing service that measure pedagogy and knowledge~~
12 ~~of at least one subject area; or, a valid and reliable~~
13 ~~subject area specific, performance-based assessment for~~
14 ~~preservice teacher candidates, centered on student learning.~~
15 ~~A student shall not successfully complete the program unless~~
16 ~~the student achieves scores above the twenty-fifth percentile~~
17 ~~nationally on the assessments administered pursuant to this~~
18 ~~subparagraph.~~

19 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate
20 importance, takes effect upon enactment.

21 Sec. 3. RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY. This Act applies
22 retroactively to July 1, 2012, for individuals who completed
23 the course requirements for an approved practitioner
24 preparation program but attained an assessment score below that
25 required for successful completion of the program under section
26 256.16, subsection 1, paragraph "a", subparagraph (2), Code
27 2019. Such an individual shall be deemed to have successfully
28 completed the practitioner preparation program for purposes
29 of section 256.16 and is eligible to submit an application
30 for an initial license to the board of educational examiners,
31 which may issue the initial license for a period of time at its
32 discretion.

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EXPLANATION

34 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
35 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

1 This bill strikes a requirement that postsecondary
2 institutions with an approved practitioner preparation program
3 administer a subject or performance-based assessment to a
4 student prior to the student's completion of the program, and
5 concomitantly strikes the requirement that a student achieve a
6 score above the 25th percentile nationally on the assessment.

7 The bill takes effect upon enactment and applies
8 retroactively to July 1, 2012, to provide that individuals who
9 on or after that date completed course requirements for an
10 approved practitioner preparation program, but did not attain
11 the assessment score necessary to successfully complete the
12 program, shall be deemed to have successfully completed the
13 program.