

House File 2020 - Introduced

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BY GOBBLE

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the assessments administered to practitioner
2 preparation program students prior to students' completion
3 of a practitioner preparation program and including
4 effective date provisions.

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

1 Section 1. Section 256.16, subsection 1, paragraph a,
2 subparagraph (2), Code 2022, is amended to read as follows:

3 (2) Administer, prior to a student's completion of
4 the practitioner preparation program and subject to the
5 director's approval, ~~subject assessments designed by a~~
6 ~~nationally recognized testing service that measure pedagogy~~
7 ~~and knowledge of at least one subject area; or,~~ a valid and
8 reliable subject-area-specific, performance-based assessment
9 for preservice teacher candidates, that is centered on student
10 learning, including knowledge the student could reasonably be
11 expected to have attained during the field experiences and
12 student teaching experience required by paragraph "d". A
13 student shall not successfully complete the program unless
14 the ~~scores~~ score achieved by the student on the assessments
15 ~~administered under this subparagraph~~ are assessment is at or
16 above the minimum passing ~~scores~~ score set by the department.

17 (a) In setting the minimum passing ~~scores~~ score for purposes
18 of this subparagraph, the department shall consider ~~all of the~~
19 ~~following~~:

20 ~~(i) Scores required for similar tests in all of the states~~
21 ~~contiguous to Iowa.~~

22 ~~(ii) The~~ the supply and demand imbalance of content areas or
23 teaching positions currently experienced in Iowa.

24 (b) A student who successfully completes the practitioner
25 preparation program as required under this subparagraph shall
26 be deemed to have attained a passing score on the ~~assessments~~
27 assessment administered under this subparagraph even if the
28 department subsequently sets a different minimum passing ~~scores~~
29 score.

30 Sec. 2. DEVELOPMENT OF ASSESSMENT. The higher education
31 institutions of this state that provide practitioner
32 preparation programs shall collaboratively develop the
33 assessment described in section 256.16, subsection 1, paragraph
34 "a", subparagraph (2), as amended by this Act, no later than
35 July 1, 2023. The department of education shall coordinate the

1 creation of the assessment and provide staffing as necessary to
2 assist the institutions.

3 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. The following takes effect July 1,
4 2023:

5 The portion of the section of this Act amending section
6 256.16, subsection 1, paragraph "a", subparagraph (2).

7 EXPLANATION

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

10 This bill relates to the assessments administered to
11 practitioner preparation program students prior to students'
12 completion of a practitioner preparation program.

13 Current law provides that the state board of education
14 shall adopt rules requiring all higher education institutions
15 providing practitioner preparation to, prior to a student's
16 completion of the practitioner preparation program, administer
17 either subject assessments designed by a nationally recognized
18 testing service that measure pedagogy and knowledge or a
19 valid and reliable subject-area-specific, performance-based
20 assessment centered on student learning. The bill strikes
21 an institution's option of administering subject assessments
22 designed by a nationally recognized testing service prior to a
23 student's completion of the practitioner preparation program,
24 therefore requiring the institution to instead administer a
25 valid and reliable, subject-area-specific, performance-based
26 assessment for preservice teacher candidates. The bill
27 requires the assessment to cover knowledge the student could
28 reasonably be expected to have attained during the student's
29 field experiences and student teaching experience. The bill
30 provides that this provision takes effect July 1, 2023.

31 The bill requires the higher education institutions to
32 collaboratively develop the assessment no later than July
33 1, 2023. The bill requires the department of education to
34 coordinate the creation of the assessment and provide staffing
35 as necessary to assist the institutions.

1 The bill makes conforming changes.