

House File 119 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 119
BY LATHAM

A BILL FOR

1 An Act modifying provisions related to content specialist
2 authorizations and career and technical secondary
3 authorizations issued by the board of educational examiners
4 and including applicability provisions.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 256.146, subsection 12, Code 2025, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 12. a. Adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to provide
4 for nontraditional preparation options for licensing persons
5 who hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited or
6 state-approved college or university, who do not meet other
7 requirements for licensure. The rules shall, at a minimum,
8 require the board to do all of the following:
9 ~~a.~~ (1) Issue a teacher intern license to an applicant who
10 has enrolled in a program established pursuant to section 256.16,
11 subsection 1, paragraph "m".

12 ~~b.~~ (2) Allow a licensee who has attained a teacher intern
13 license pursuant to ~~paragraph "a"~~ subparagraph (1) to apply
14 for an initial teaching license if the school that employed
15 the licensee during the licensee's completion of the program
16 established pursuant to section 256.16, subsection 1, paragraph
17 "m", and the higher education institution that operated the
18 program recommend that the licensee be allowed to apply for an
19 initial teaching license.

20 b. The rules adopted pursuant to paragraph "a" shall not
21 require an individual who holds a master's degree or higher in
22 an endorsement area to convert the initial content specialist
23 authorization to a content specialist authorization. Instead,
24 the individual may continue to teach under the initial content
25 specialist authorization after the initial three-year period so
26 long as the individual is working under the direction of a mentor
27 teacher who holds a content specialist authorization.

28 Sec. 2. Section 256.146, subsection 26, Code 2025, is amended
29 to read as follows:

30 26. a. Adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A that allow an
31 individual seeking a career and technical secondary authorization
32 to apply, and, if eligible, be issued the secondary authorization
33 prior to accepting an offer of employment with a school.

34 b. The rules adopted pursuant to paragraph "a" shall not
35 require an individual who has an initial career and technical

1 secondary authorization to convert the initial career and
2 technical secondary authorization to a career and technical
3 secondary authorization. Instead, the individual may continue
4 to teach under the initial career and technical secondary
5 authorization after the initial three-year period so long as the
6 individual is working under the direction of an individual who
7 has a career and technical secondary authorization.

8 c. The rules adopted pursuant to paragraph "a" shall require
9 the board to issue an initial career and technical secondary
10 authorization to an applicant who is a community college-employed
11 instructor who meets the requirements established in section
12 260C.48, subsection 1, paragraph "a"; provided, however, that
13 such an applicant shall be disqualified for any reason specified
14 in subsection 13.

15 Sec. 3. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to individuals who
16 apply to the board of educational examiners for an initial
17 content specialist authorization or an initial career and
18 technical secondary authorization before, on, or after the
19 effective date of this Act.

20 EXPLANATION

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

23 This bill modifies provisions related to content specialist
24 authorizations and career and technical secondary authorizations
25 issued by the board of educational examiners (BOEE).

26 Current law requires the BOEE to adopt rules to provide
27 for nontraditional preparation options for licensing persons
28 who hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited
29 or state-approved college or university, who do not meet
30 other requirements for licensure. In accordance with this
31 provision, the BOEE has established by rule a content specialist
32 authorization, which is provided to applicants who have not
33 completed a teacher preparation program but who hold a master's
34 degree or higher in an endorsement area. The bill provides
35 that such rules shall not require an individual who holds a

1 master's degree or higher in an endorsement area to convert the
2 initial content specialist authorization to a content specialist
3 authorization. Instead, the individual may continue to teach
4 under the initial content specialist authorization after the
5 initial three-year period so long as the individual is working
6 under the direction of a mentor teacher who holds a content
7 specialist authorization.

8 These provisions apply to individuals who apply to the BOEE
9 for an initial content specialist authorization before, on, or
10 after the effective date of the bill.

11 Current law requires the BOEE to adopt rules related to
12 career and technical secondary authorizations. The bill provides
13 that such rules shall not require an individual who has an
14 initial career and technical secondary authorization to convert
15 the initial career and technical secondary authorization to
16 a career and technical secondary authorization. Instead, the
17 individual may continue to teach under the initial career and
18 technical secondary authorization after the initial three-year
19 period so long as the individual is working under the
20 direction of an individual who has a career and technical
21 secondary authorization. The bill also provides that such
22 rules shall require the BOEE to issue an initial career and
23 technical secondary authorization to an applicant who is a
24 community college-employed instructor who meets the requirements
25 established in Code section 260C.48 (standards for accrediting
26 community college programs).

27 These provisions apply to individuals who apply to the BOEE
28 for an initial career and technical secondary authorization
29 before, on, or after the effective date of the bill.