

SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 354

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled
"The revised school code,"
by amending section 1531 (MCL 380.1531), as amended by 2023 PA 110.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1531. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this act, the
2 superintendent of public instruction shall determine the
3 requirements for and issue all licenses, certificates, and
4 endorsements for teachers, including preprimary teachers and
5 teachers as counselors, in the public schools of this state.

6 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this act, the
7 superintendent of public instruction shall ~~only~~ issue a teaching
8 certificate or additional endorsement **only** to an individual who has
9 passed appropriate available examinations. ~~The superintendent of~~

~~public instruction may accept passage of an equivalent~~ An individual is considered to have passed the appropriate available examinations if any of the following apply:

(a) The individual passed the examinations described in subsection (9).

(b) For an individual who holds or is eligible for a valid teaching certificate in another state or with a federally recognized Indian tribe, the individual passed both of the following, as applicable:

(i) For an individual seeking a pre-K-to-grade-3-level endorsement or grade-3-to-grade-6-level endorsement, a reading test that is either the reading subtest in subsection (9) or, if the other state or federally recognized Indian tribe has approved a reading test that is based on the science of reading, the reading test approved by the other state or federally recognized Indian tribe.

(ii) An examination that meets both of the following:

(A) Is approved by the ~~superintendent of public instruction to meet this requirement for an individual holding a teaching certificate from another state, country, or federally recognized Indian tribe.~~ state or federally recognized Indian tribe that issued the individual's teaching certificate.

(B) Is already in existence as of the effective date of the amendatory act that added this sub-subparagraph.

(c) For an individual who holds or is eligible for a valid teaching certificate in another country, the individual passed both of the following, as applicable:

(i) An equivalent examination approved by the superintendent of public instruction.

1 (ii) For an individual seeking a pre-K-to-grade-3-level
2 endorsement or grade-3-to-grade-6-level endorsement, a reading test
3 that is either the reading subtest in subsection (9) or a reading
4 test that is based on the science of reading and is approved by the
5 superintendent of public instruction to replace the reading subtest
6 in subsection (9).

7 (3) Except as otherwise provided in this act, the
8 superintendent of public instruction shall ~~only~~ issue a teaching
9 certificate **only** to an individual who has met the elementary or
10 secondary, as applicable, reading credit requirements established
11 under superintendent of public instruction rule. If an individual
12 holds a teaching certificate, notwithstanding any rule to the
13 contrary, the superintendent of public instruction shall not
14 advance the individual's certification to professional
15 certification unless the individual has successfully completed at
16 least a 3-credit course of study with appropriate field experiences
17 in the diagnosis and remediation of reading disabilities and
18 differentiated instruction. To meet this requirement, the course of
19 study should include the following elements, as determined by the
20 department to be appropriate for the individual's certification
21 level and endorsements: interest inventories, English language
22 learning screening, visual and auditory discrimination tools,
23 language expression and processing screening, phonemics, phonics,
24 vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, spelling and writing assessment
25 tools, and instructional strategies. An individual may complete the
26 course of study as part of ~~his or her~~ **the individual's** teacher
27 preparation program.

28 (4) Any revisions to existing reading standards must include
29 the recognition of reading disorders and enable teachers to make

1 referrals for instruction and support for pupils with reading
2 disorders.

3 (5) Subject to subsection (8), if an individual holding a
4 teaching certificate from another state, country, or federally
5 recognized Indian tribe applies to the superintendent of public
6 instruction for a Michigan teaching certificate and meets the
7 requirements of this subsection, the superintendent of public
8 instruction shall issue to the individual a Michigan teaching
9 certificate and endorsements comparable to those the individual
10 holds in the other state or country or with the federally
11 recognized Indian tribe without requiring the individual to pass
12 the appropriate examinations otherwise required under subsection
13 (2) or to complete the reading credit requirement established under
14 superintendent of public instruction rule as described in
15 subsection (3). To be eligible to receive a Michigan teaching
16 certificate under this subsection, an individual shall provide
17 evidence satisfactory to the department that ~~he or she~~ **the**
18 **individual** has taught successfully for at least 3 years in a
19 position for which the individual's teaching certification from the
20 other state, country, or federally recognized Indian tribe was
21 valid.

22 (6) Subject to subsection (8), an individual holding a
23 teaching certificate from another state, country, or federally
24 recognized Indian tribe is eligible for a Michigan professional
25 education certificate if the individual meets both of the
26 following:

27 (a) The individual has taught successfully for at least 3
28 years in a position for which the individual's teaching
29 certification from the other state, country, or federally

1 recognized Indian tribe was valid.

2 (b) The individual meets the elementary or secondary, as
3 applicable, reading credit requirement established under
4 superintendent of public instruction rule as described in
5 subsection (3).

6 (7) Subject to subsection (8), if an individual holding a
7 teaching certificate from another state, country, or federally
8 recognized Indian tribe applies to the superintendent of public
9 instruction for an additional endorsement on a valid Michigan
10 teaching certificate and meets the requirements of this subsection,
11 the superintendent of public instruction shall issue the individual
12 an endorsement comparable to that which the individual holds in the
13 other state or country or with the federally recognized Indian
14 tribe without requiring that the individual pass the appropriate
15 available examinations otherwise required under subsection (2). To
16 be eligible to receive an additional endorsement under this
17 subsection, an individual shall provide evidence satisfactory to
18 the department that ~~he or she~~ **the individual** has taught
19 successfully for at least 3 years in a position for which the
20 individual's teaching endorsement from the other state, country, or
21 federally recognized Indian tribe is valid.

22 (8) The superintendent of public instruction shall deny a
23 Michigan teaching certificate or endorsement to an individual
24 described in subsection (5), (6), or (7) for fraud, material
25 misrepresentation, or concealment in the individual's application
26 for a certificate or for a conviction for which an individual's
27 teaching certificate may be suspended or revoked under section
28 1535a.

29 (9) For the purposes of this section, the superintendent of

1 public instruction, based ~~upon~~**on** criteria recommended by a
2 committee of teachers, representatives of approved teacher
3 education institutions, Michigan education organizations and
4 associations, and experts in measurement and assessment, shall
5 develop, select, or develop and select 1 or more subject area
6 examinations. In addition, the superintendent of public
7 instruction, based ~~upon~~**on** criteria recommended by the committee
8 described in this subsection, shall approve a reading subtest **that**
9 **is based on the science of reading** to be taken and passed by
10 individuals seeking ~~pre-K to grade 3 or grade 3 to grade 6 level a~~
11 **pre-K-to-grade-3-level endorsement or grade-3-to-grade-6-level**
12 endorsement. If the department develops for use under this
13 subsection an examination that had previously been contracted for
14 using a competitive bid process, ~~then~~ the department shall not
15 expend on the development of that examination an amount that
16 exceeds the amount that the department expended on procurement of
17 the most recent competitively-bid version of that examination. The
18 competitive bid process must address validity, reliability, and
19 other technical standards of the examinations and of the
20 appropriate administration and use of those examinations.

21 (10) ~~Not~~**By not** later than November 30 of each year, the
22 superintendent of public instruction shall submit in writing a
23 report on the development or selection and use of the subject area
24 examinations to the house and senate education committees. The
25 report must also contain a financial statement regarding revenue
26 received from the assessment of fees levied under subsection (12)
27 and the amount of and any purposes for which that revenue was
28 expended.

29 (11) The examinations required by this section may be taken at

1 different times during an approved teacher preparation program, but
2 the examinations, as applicable, must be passed before an
3 individual is recommended for certification.

4 (12) The department, or if approved by the superintendent of
5 public instruction, a private testing service, may assess fees for
6 taking the appropriate available examinations described in
7 subsection (2). The fees, which must be set by the superintendent
8 of public instruction, must not exceed the actual cost of the
9 examination and of administering the examination. Fees received by
10 the department must be expended solely for administrative expenses
11 that it incurs in implementing this section. If the superintendent
12 of public instruction increases a fee charged for an examination
13 under this subsection, at least 1 year before implementing the fee
14 increase, the department shall notify each approved teacher
15 education institution of the amount of the fee increase. An
16 approved teacher education institution shall notify each of its
17 affected students of the timing and amount of such a fee increase.

18 (13) If an individual holding a teaching certificate from
19 another state, country, or federally recognized Indian tribe
20 applies for a Michigan teaching certificate and meets all
21 requirements for the Michigan teaching certificate except passage
22 of the appropriate available examinations under subsection (2) or
23 the reading credit requirement under subsection (3), the
24 superintendent of public instruction shall issue a nonrenewable
25 temporary teaching certificate, good for 1 year, to the individual.
26 The superintendent of public instruction shall not issue a Michigan
27 teaching certificate to the individual after expiration of the
28 temporary teaching certificate unless the individual has met the
29 requirements of this section.

~~(14) As used in this section:~~

~~(a) "Additional endorsement" means an endorsement added to a Michigan teaching certificate after initial issuance of the certificate.~~

~~(b) "An individual holding a teaching certificate from another state, country, or federally recognized Indian tribe" means an individual with a valid teaching certificate or an individual who is eligible for a teaching certificate in the state or country or with the federally recognized Indian tribe in which or with which the individual is certificated or eligible for certification.~~

~~(c) "Subject area examination" means an examination related to an endorsement area for the purpose of demonstrating the applicant's knowledge and understanding of the subject matter and determining whether or not an applicant is eligible for a Michigan teaching certificate or endorsement.~~

(14) ~~(15)~~ The superintendent of public instruction shall promulgate rules for the implementation of this section.

(15) ~~(16)~~ **Not** ~~By not~~ later than January 1, 2019, the superintendent of public instruction, in consultation with the department of labor and economic opportunity and groups or individuals representing employers, economic development agencies, trade unions, secondary school principals, middle and elementary school principals, teachers, school district and intermediate school district superintendents, and others as determined appropriate by the department, shall promulgate rules to allow an individual to use time spent engaging with local employers or technical centers toward the renewal of a teaching certificate in the same manner as state continuing education or professional development.

1 (16) As used in this section:

2 (a) "Additional endorsement" means an endorsement added to a
3 Michigan teaching certificate after initial issuance of the
4 certificate.

5 (b) "An individual holding a teaching certificate from another
6 state, country, or federally recognized Indian tribe" means an
7 individual with a valid teaching certificate or an individual who
8 is eligible for a teaching certificate in another state, in another
9 country, or with a federally recognized Indian tribe.

10 (c) "Science of reading" means that term as defined in section
11 1280f.

12 (d) "Subject area examination" means an examination related to
13 an endorsement area for the purpose of demonstrating the
14 applicant's knowledge and understanding of the subject matter and
15 determining whether an applicant is eligible for a Michigan
16 teaching certificate or endorsement.