TEACHERS. Provides relative to teacher certification requirements. (gov sig)
by law or board policy, or both, that a teacher holding a regular teacher certificate which is valid for three years must comply with, in order for the teacher to be issued a permanent regular teacher certificate, and it is not possible for a teacher at a nonpublic school to comply with such qualification or condition due to the teacher being employed at a nonpublic school, the board shall establish, effective for the 1998-1999 school year and thereafter, an alternative method or process by which the nonpublic school teacher may meet such qualification or condition. A teacher employed in a nonpublic school who meets the qualifications or conditions pursuant to the alternative method or process established pursuant to this Item shall be issued a permanent regular teacher certificate which shall be valid for all purposes in this state and under all the same conditions as if it had been issued to a teacher who complied with the qualifications or conditions as otherwise established by law or board policy. Prior to establishing an alternative method or process, the board shall direct the nonpublic school commission, established pursuant to R.S. 17:11, to formulate, develop, and recommend to the board the alternative method or process by which the nonpublic school teacher may meet the qualification or condition and the method or process established by the board shall be consistent with the recommendations of the nonpublic school commission.

(b)(i)(aa) A person applying for initial certification as a teacher in a public school shall have passed satisfactorily an examination, which shall include English proficiency, pedagogical knowledge, and knowledge in his area of specialization, as a prerequisite to the granting of such certificate. However, a person who is employed as a foreign language teacher in a Certified Foreign Language Immersion Program pursuant to R.S. 17:273.2, and who is not otherwise eligible to receive state authorization to teach through participation in the Foreign Associate Teacher Program, shall not be required to pass the examination required by this Subitem, but shall at least have a baccalaureate degree and shall be subject to all provisions of state law relative to background checks and criminal history review applicable to the employment of public school personnel.
(bb) On and after September 15, 1981, any person certified to teach in another state who applies for certification to teach in the public schools of Louisiana shall be required to pass satisfactorily the examination which is administered in accordance with the provisions of this Paragraph as a prerequisite to the granting of such certification. However, a teacher certified in another state who meets all other requirements for a Louisiana certificate granted to out-of-state graduates except for the provisions of this Item shall be granted a three-year nonrenewable provisional certificate to be used while said teacher completes the requirements set forth in this Paragraph.

* * *

(ii) The superintendent of education shall administer the aforementioned policy of the board. In such administration of the policy, the superintendent shall choose the appropriate testing instrument, shall conduct all necessary research to validate the applicability of the instrument to teacher education programs within the state of Louisiana, and shall conduct all necessary research to determine the level at which the examination is satisfactorily completed. During the conduct of the research and in the preparation of the testing instrument, the superintendent shall meet with and consider the suggestions of individual classroom teachers, representatives of teacher organizations, deans of education of the public colleges and universities of the state, and representatives of each of the governing boards for higher education.

* * *

(iv) The state superintendent of education shall annually submit a report to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education relative to the examination administered pursuant to this Paragraph. Such report shall include but not be limited to the following: the number of persons to whom the examination was administered; the educational background and teaching experience of such persons; the number of persons successfully completing the examination; the effectiveness of the examination; and any
suggestions for improving the examination.

(c) Any person who fails to successfully pass the original examination required by Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, but who meets all other certification requirements and who scored within ten percent of the score required for passage on the original examination selected by the state superintendent of education, may be employed for a period not to exceed one year in the following manner:

(i) The state superintendent of education, upon receipt of a signed affidavit by the president and superintendent of the school board designee of the local school system to which such person has applied for employment that there is no other applicant available for employment for a specific teaching position who has met the requirements of this Section, may issue an emergency teaching permit to such person. Such permit shall be in effect for not more than one year but may be renewed twice. Such renewal of the permit shall be accomplished in the same manner as the granting of the original permit. The granting of such emergency teaching permit shall in no way affect, reduce, or waive the requirement that the person successfully complete the aforementioned examination. At any time the person successfully passes the examination, he may be employed on a permanent basis.

(ii) The period herein provided for the employment of a teacher with an during which a teacher is working under an emergency teaching permit granted under the provisions of this Paragraph shall not count toward tenure.

(d) Any examination selected by the state superintendent of education which would to supercede the examination used pursuant to Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph and any criteria established to determine the level at which either the examination used or any examination selected to supercede it is deemed satisfactorily completed shall be approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

(e) The board shall not adopt any policy, rule, regulation, or other measure that limits or restricts the number of times a temporary employment permit may be issued to any teacher who meets all other requirements of current board policy.
applied for employment for a specific teaching position for which position there is no other applicant available for employment who has met the requirements of this Paragraph, has the recommendation of the superintendent of the school system employing such teacher, and who has had a successful local evaluation for the previous four years prior to such issuance. Any such policy, rule, regulation, or other measure in effect on July 1, 1993 shall be null and void.

* * *

§7.1. Certification of teachers; certification of principals and superintendents; certification of school psychologists

A. In carrying out its responsibility to prescribe the qualifications and provide for the certification of teachers under authority of R.S. 17:7(6), the qualifications and requirements established by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for certification of any applicant for certification who completes from an approved teacher education program in Louisiana shall include but not be limited to the following:

(2) That the applicant shall have attained a 2.20 average on a 4.00 scale as a condition for entrance into a teacher education program.

(2)(a) That the applicant shall have achieved a 2.50 average on a 4.00 scale at graduation from an approved program.

(b) An applicant who has passed all requisite examinations covering pre-professional skills and content knowledge but who does not meet the requirement of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph may be certified if he completes a post-baccalaureate program as provided in this Subparagraph follows:

(i) Such an applicant for admission to a post-baccalaureate program may be granted conditional admission following a satisfactory personal interview by the program’s admissions officer.

(ii) If the program awards credit hours, the applicant shall have achieved a grade point average of 3.00 or higher in post-baccalaureate program courses by the end of his first twelve credit hours and successfully complete
completed the program.

(iii)(ii) If the program does not award credit hours, the applicant shall demonstrate have demonstrated mastery of competencies as required by the program administrator and by the school system in which the applicant completes he completed his required clinical practice, and satisfactorily completes completed all program requirements as set forth by the state board, including any requirements for clinical practice, at graduation.

(4)(a) For applicants who have participated in any (3)(a) Have completed, if the program is an undergraduate teacher education program, that the applicant shall complete the a prescribed number of semester hours in the teaching of reading as established in policy by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in accordance with the level of certification to be awarded. The requirement shall be in addition to requirements for English courses; and such courses in the teaching of reading shall emphasize techniques of teaching reading and the recognition and correction of reading problems of the student. For certification at the secondary level, not more than three semester hours in the teaching of reading shall be considered for purposes of meeting certification requirements.

(b) For applicants who have participated in any Have completed, if the program is an alternate teacher education program as provided pursuant to rules and regulations adopted by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, that the applicant shall be given the option of either completing either the same amount number of semester hours as required for the teaching of reading for undergraduate program applicants pursuant to this Paragraph or, in lieu of such semester hour requirements, shall possess the reading and literacy competencies identified in scientifically based reading research at the national level and approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for the teaching of reading board.

(5) That the applicant shall have (4) Have spent a minimum of 270 clock hours in student teaching with at least 180 of such hours spent in actual teaching.
(6) That the applicant shall have (5) Have completed a substantial portion of his 180 hours of actual student teaching on an all-day basis.

(7) That, beginning with the fall semester of 1985, each applicant, prior to entry into a teacher education program in an institution of higher education, shall take a standardized teaching aptitude test which has predictive value for passage of the examination required for teacher certification by R.S. 17:7(6)(b). The dean of each college of education of an institution which offers a teacher education program shall oversee the administration of the examination and shall see that each student shall be informed of the results of the test and shall be counseled with regard to the significance of the results. The deans of the colleges of education of the institutions which offer a teacher education program shall meet and collectively choose the entrance examination and shall determine the level at which the examination indicates probable success. They shall submit their recommendations to the Board of Regents for approval no later than December 31, 1984. Such examination shall not be required or administered until approved by the Board of Regents. Nothing herein shall be construed as preempting or diminishing the teacher education program admission standards previously adopted by the Board of Regents.

(7) That, beginning with the fall semester of 1985, each applicant, prior to entry into a teacher education program in an institution of higher education, shall have satisfactorily passed a standardized teaching aptitude test which has predictive value for passage of the examination required for teacher certification by R.S. 17:7(6)(b). The dean of each college of education of an institution which offers a teacher education program shall oversee the administration of the examination and may at his discretion, make exceptions for students in certain cases. The deans of the colleges of education of each institution which offers a teacher education program shall meet and collectively choose the entrance examination and shall determine the level at which the examination is satisfactorily completed. They shall submit their recommendations to the Board of Regents for approval no later than December 31, 1984. Such examination shall not be required or administered until approved by the Board of Regents.
Board of Regents.

B.(1) After August 15, 1986, except as otherwise provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, any persons **At a minimum, any person** applying for initial certification as a principal or vice, assistant, or deputy principal, hereafter referred to in this Paragraph as a principal, in addition to any other requirements of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, shall have passed the administrative portion of the National Teachers Examination produced by the Educational Testing Service. The state board shall determine the satisfactory passage level at a level determined by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education not later than August 1, 1986, which determination shall be based on a validation study to be completed by the board no later than July 31, 1986. The validation study shall be and submitted to the Joint Committee Senate and House committees on Education education for approval its review prior to adoption of a passage score.

(2) Beginning August 15, 2003, and thereafter, any **At a minimum any** person applying for initial certification as a principal or superintendent, in addition to any other requirements of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, shall have satisfactorily passed the appropriate assessment instrument selected by the board at a level determined by the board in the same manner as provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection.

* * *

§7.2. Approved teacher education programs

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C. In adopting requirements for approval of teacher education programs pursuant to this Section and the completion of the programs, the board shall provide that such requirements shall not make such requirements be applicable to students enrolled in an approved teacher education program in Louisiana on the effective date of this Section the adoption of the requirement, unless the board finds that any such requirement can be made applicable without undue hardship to the student. The board shall provide that requirements adopted pursuant to

Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.
Paragraphs (4) and (5) of Subsection A shall not be applicable to students enrolled in an approved teacher education program in Louisiana on the effective date of such Paragraphs, unless the board finds that any such requirement can be made applicable without undue hardship to the student:

*          *          *

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

DIGEST

SB 377 Original 2022 Regular Session Peacock

Present law (R.S. 17:7) provides relative to the duties, functions, and responsibilities of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) which includes prescribing the qualifications of teachers and providing for the certification of teachers.

Proposed law retains present law. Proposed law removes outdated provisions, corrects terminology, and clarifies present law.

Proposed law (R.S. 17:7.1) provides certain qualifications and requirements that BESE shall require of an applicant seeking teaching certification.

Proposed law retains present law. Proposed law corrects terminology and removes conflicting provisions from present law.

Present law (R.S. 17:7.2) provides, relative to approved teacher education programs, that present law changes to board policies are not to be applicable to students already enrolled in an approved program in Louisiana at the time the changes are made, unless the board finds that any such change can be made without undue hardship to the students enrolled.

Proposed law clarifies present law.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:7(6)(a)(ii), (b)(i)(aa) and (bb), (ii), and (iv), and (c), (d), and (e), 7.1(A) and (B)(1) and (2), and 7.2(C))