

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 546

BY REPRESENTATIVES MINCEY, BRASS, HARRIS, JEFFERSON, CHARLES OWEN,  
SCHLEGEL, ST. BLANC, AND TARVER

HIGHER EDUCATION: Provides relative to the requirements for admission into a teacher education program

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:7(6)(b)(i)(aa) and to repeal R.S. 17:7.1(A)(7), relative to  
3 teacher preparation and certification; to revise requirements for entry into a teacher  
4 preparation program; to revise requirements for initial certification of school  
5 teachers; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:7(6)(b)(i)(aa) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §7. Duties, functions, and responsibilities of board

9 In addition to the authorities granted by R.S. 17:6 and any powers, duties, and  
10 responsibilities vested by any other applicable laws, the board shall:

11 \* \* \*

12 (6)

13 \* \* \*

14 (b)(i)(aa) A person applying for initial certification as a teacher in a public  
15 school shall have passed satisfactorily an examination, which shall include ~~English~~  
16 ~~proficiency~~, pedagogical knowledge; and knowledge in his area of specialization, or  
17 the standard aptitude test required for admission into the university, as a prerequisite  
18 to the granting of such certificate. However, a person who is employed as a foreign  
19 language teacher in a Certified Foreign Language Immersion Program pursuant to

1 R.S. 17:273.2, and who is not otherwise eligible to receive state authorization to  
 2 teach through participation in the Foreign Associate Teacher Program, shall not be  
 3 required to pass the examination required by this Subitem, but shall at least have a  
 4 baccalaureate degree and shall be subject to all provisions of state law relative to  
 5 background checks and criminal history review applicable to the employment of  
 6 public school personnel.

7 \* \* \*

8 Section 2. R.S. 17:7.1(A)(7) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

9 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
 10 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
 11 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
 12 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
 13 effective on the day following such approval.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 546 Reengrossed

2022 Regular Session

Mincey

**Abstract:** Revises requirements for entrance into a teacher preparation program and for teacher certification.

Present law provides conditions for entry into a teacher preparation program at a postsecondary education institution, including meeting certain examination and grade point average requirements. Proposed law removes the examination requirement and retains all other entrance requirements provided in present law.

Present law provides prerequisites for teacher certification, including passing satisfactorily an examination that includes English proficiency, pedagogical knowledge, and knowledge in the specialization area. Proposed law removes the English proficiency component and adds the standard aptitude test required for admission into the university as an alternative examination option and otherwise retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 17:7(6)(b)(i)(aa); Repeals R.S. 17:7.1(A)(7))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Eliminate the English proficiency component of the exam required for teacher certification.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Add the standard aptitude test required for university admission as an alternative examination option for certification purposes.