

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE NO. 2 FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 2776
103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5998H.04C

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 168, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to teaching certificates.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 168, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 168.038, to read as follows:

168.038. 1. In addition to granting certificates of license to teach in public schools of the state under section 168.021, the state board of education shall grant associate teacher certificates, as provided in this section, to any individual seeking to teach in elementary education grades one through six in any public school in this state.

2. (1) The state board of education shall not grant an associate teacher certificate under this section to any individual who has not completed a background check as required under section 168.133.

(2) The state board of education may refuse to issue or renew, suspend, or revoke any certificate sought or issued under this section in the same manner and for the same reasons as under section 168.071.

3. (1) The state board of education shall grant a tier I associate teacher certificate under this section to any individual who has submitted an application to the state board of education after having completed a teacher preparation program approved by the state board of education consisting of no fewer than sixty semester hours.

(2) The teacher preparation program shall:

(a) Include literacy and reading instruction coursework as outlined in subsection 4 of section 161.097;

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in bold-face type in the above bill is proposed language.

19 **(b) Be offered by an institution accredited by the state board of education in the**
20 **same manner that existing teacher preparation providers are accredited; and**

21 **(c) Include a capstone project as a component, which may include passage of a**
22 **general education assessment or a similar institution-created measure to assess the**
23 **individual's proficiency in fundamentals of instruction.**

24 **(3) A tier I associate teacher certificate issued by the state board of education**
25 **under this subsection shall certify the holder to be employed by a school district or**
26 **charter school as a teacher of record. Such certificate shall not be renewed and shall**
27 **expire four years after issuance.**

28 **(4) A holder of a tier I associate teacher certificate shall:**

29 **(a) Participate in a mentoring program approved and provided by the school**
30 **district or charter school for a minimum of two years; and**

31 **(b) Participate in school district or charter school professional development,**
32 **which shall consist of thirty hours annually, and the approved beginning teacher**
33 **assistance program.**

34 **4. (1) In order to qualify for a tier II associate teacher certificate, an individual**
35 **who holds a tier I associate teacher certificate shall:**

36 **(a) Complete two years of service in a Missouri public school district or charter**
37 **school as a teacher of record as reported in the core data system and the Missouri**
38 **student information system;**

39 **(b) Successfully achieve an acceptable score on a state-approved teacher**
40 **evaluation system from:**

41 **a. Seven walk-through evaluations;**

42 **b. Two formative evaluations; and**

43 **c. One summative evaluation for each of the two probationary years such**
44 **individual held a tier I associate teacher certificate;**

45 **(c) Be offered a third contract by a public school of the state; and**

46 **(d) Demonstrate proficiency in the teaching of reading by passing the state**
47 **board of education-approved elementary reading exam.**

48 **(2) For an applicant who has a change in job status because of a reduction in the**
49 **workforce or a change in life circumstances, the years of service and score required**
50 **under this subsection may be achieved in any school district or charter school during the**
51 **four-year nonrenewable tier I associate teacher certificate period.**

52 **(3) A tier II associate teacher certificate issued by the state board of education**
53 **under this subsection shall certify the holder to be employed by a school district or**
54 **charter school for three years. Such certificate shall not be renewed and shall expire**
55 **five years after issuance.**

56 **5. A career continuous professional certificate may be issued to a holder of a tier**
57 **II associate teacher certificate who has completed three years of service and sixty**
58 **contact hours of professional development, which may include hours spent in an**
59 **appropriate college curriculum and who has passed the state-approved teacher exit**
60 **exam as required for other elementary teacher candidates. Career continuous**
61 **professional certificates shall expire after ninety-nine years from issuance.**

62 **6. (1) Holders of a tier I and tier II associate teacher certificate are not eligible**
63 **for additional certifications under subdivision (7) of subsection 1 of section 168.021.**

64 **(2) School districts and charter schools shall be required to compensate tier I**
65 **and II associate teacher certificate holders at a minimum of thirty-five thousand dollars**
66 **annually and may provide a separate salary schedule for associate teacher certificate**
67 **holders.**

68 **7. (1) A holder of a tier I and tier II associate teacher certificate shall be**
69 **considered a teacher for the purposes of sections 169.010 and 169.410.**

70 **(2) The holder of a tier I and tier II associate teacher certificate shall contribute**
71 **to the retirement system for the district or school in which the holder is employed.**

72 **8. (1) A holder of a career continuous professional certificate shall be eligible for**
73 **additional certifications under subdivision (7) of subsection 1 of section 168.021. Such**
74 **additional certification shall be at the determination of the department of elementary**
75 **and secondary education, shall only include certifications for early childhood and at the**
76 **middle school level, and shall not include certification for special education or at the**
77 **high school level.**

78 **(2) A holder of a career continuous professional certificate who is employed by a**
79 **school district or charter school shall be required to be compensated in accordance with**
80 **the minimum salary level established under section 163.172.**

81 **9. (1) The beginning teacher assistance program and the professional**
82 **development requirements for tier I and tier II associate teacher certificate holders**
83 **that are aligned with higher education teacher preparation programs may be applied as**
84 **credit toward a bachelor of arts or bachelor of science in education at a participating**
85 **institution of higher education.**

86 **(2) Institutions of higher education may offer such credit at a reduced rate, and**
87 **up to eighteen hours of such professional development may be applied toward a**
88 **bachelor of arts or bachelor of science in education degree.**

89 **(3) Tier I and tier II associate teacher certificate holders may receive additional**
90 **compensation in the form of tuition reimbursement from the school district or charter**
91 **school for professional development used for courses taken in pursuit of a bachelor of**
92 **arts or bachelor of science in education or an education-related field.**

93 **(4) The department of elementary and secondary education shall allow tier I and**
94 **tier II associate teacher certificate holders who have been employed for at least two**
95 **years as a teacher of record to utilize such experience to bypass the practice teaching**
96 **evaluation and observation process required under section 168.400 for professional**
97 **teacher exit requirements from approved teacher education programs.**

98 **10. Mentors for tier I associate teacher certificate holders shall meet the**
99 **standards established under section 161.375 and shall be provided with additional**
100 **compensation as determined by the school district or charter school for providing**
101 **mentor duties, which shall include sufficient time for mentors to observe beginning**
102 **teachers and for the beginning teachers to observe master teachers, structured to**
103 **provide multiple opportunities over time and to minimize the need to require substitute**
104 **teachers to facilitate observation.**

105 **11. Beginning ten years after the effective date of this section, the department of**
106 **elementary and secondary education shall biennially provide to the joint committee on**
107 **education, or any successor committee, a report on the effectiveness of the associate**
108 **teacher certification process and make recommendations for legislative changes.**

109 **12. The state board of education may exercise the board's authority under**
110 **chapter 161 to promulgate all necessary rules and regulations for the administration of**
111 **this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that**
112 **is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it**
113 **complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable,**
114 **section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers**
115 **vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the**
116 **effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional,**
117 **then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after the**
118 **effective date of this act shall be invalid and void.**

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