



Rep. Monique D. Davis

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09800HB0490ham002

LRB098 03321 NHT 44479 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 490

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend House Bill 490 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section  
5 21B-30 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-30)

7 Sec. 21B-30. Educator testing.

8 (a) This Section applies beginning on July 1, 2012.

9 (b) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
10 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall design  
11 and implement a system of examinations, which shall be required  
12 prior to the issuance of educator licenses. These examinations  
13 and indicators must be based on national and State professional  
14 teaching standards, as determined by the State Board of  
15 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation  
16 and Licensure Board. The State Board of Education may adopt

1 such rules as may be necessary to implement and administer this  
2 Section. No score on a test required under this Section, other  
3 than a test of basic skills, shall be more than 5 years old at  
4 the time that an individual makes application for an educator  
5 license or endorsement.

6 (c) All applicants ~~Applicants~~ seeking a Professional  
7 Educator License or an Educator License with Stipulations shall  
8 be required to pass the State Board of Education's recognized a  
9 test of basic skills prior to their student teaching, unless  
10 required earlier at the discretion of the recognized Illinois  
11 institution in which they are in attendance or, unless the  
12 endorsement the individual is seeking does not require passage  
13 of the test. The passage of a test of basic skills shall not be  
14 a prerequisite for admission into a graduate program for  
15 speech-language pathology. An individual admitted into a  
16 graduate program for speech-language pathology must pass a test  
17 of basic skills prior to commencement of his or her full-time  
18 school internship. ~~No candidate may be fully admitted into an~~  
19 ~~educator preparation program at a recognized Illinois~~  
20 ~~institution until he or she has passed a test of basic skills.~~  
21 An individual who passes a test of basic skills does not need  
22 to do so again for subsequent endorsements or other educator  
23 licenses.

24 (d) All applicants seeking a State license shall be  
25 required to pass a test of content area knowledge for each area  
26 of endorsement for which there is an applicable test. There

1 shall be no exception to this requirement. No candidate shall  
2 be allowed to student teach, serve as the teacher of record, or  
3 begin an internship or residency required for licensure until  
4 he or she has passed the applicable content area test.

5 (e) All applicants seeking a State license endorsed in a  
6 teaching field shall pass the assessment of professional  
7 teaching (APT). Passage of the APT is required for completion  
8 of an approved Illinois educator preparation program.

9 (f) Beginning on September 1, 2015, all candidates  
10 completing teacher preparation programs in this State are  
11 required to pass an evidence-based assessment of teacher  
12 effectiveness approved by the State Board of Education, in  
13 consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure  
14 Board. All recognized institutions offering approved teacher  
15 preparation programs must begin phasing in the approved teacher  
16 performance assessment no later than July 1, 2013.

17 (g) Tests of basic skills and content area knowledge and  
18 the assessment of professional teaching shall be the tests that  
19 from time to time are designated by the State Board of  
20 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation  
21 and Licensure Board, and may be tests prepared by an  
22 educational testing organization or tests designed by the State  
23 Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator  
24 Preparation and Licensure Board. The areas to be covered by a  
25 test of basic skills shall include reading, language arts, and  
26 mathematics. The test of content area knowledge shall assess

1 content knowledge in a specific subject field. The tests must  
2 be designed to be racially neutral to ensure that no person  
3 taking the tests is discriminated against on the basis of race,  
4 color, national origin, or other factors unrelated to the  
5 person's ability to perform as a licensed employee. The score  
6 required to pass the tests shall be fixed by the State Board of  
7 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation  
8 and Licensure Board. The tests shall be administered not fewer  
9 than 3 times a year at such time and place as may be designated  
10 by the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State  
11 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

12 The State Board shall implement a test or tests to assess  
13 the speaking, reading, writing, and grammar skills of  
14 applicants for an endorsement or a license issued under  
15 subdivision (G) of paragraph (2) of Section 21B-20 of this Code  
16 in the English language and in the language of the transitional  
17 bilingual education program requested by the applicant.

18 (h) Except as provided in Section 34-6 of this Code, the  
19 provisions of this Section shall apply equally in any school  
20 district subject to Article 34 of this Code.

21 (i) The rules developed to implement and enforce the  
22 testing requirements under this Section shall include  
23 provisions governing test selection, test validation and  
24 determination of a passing score, administration of the tests,  
25 frequency of administration, applicant fees, frequency of  
26 applicants taking the tests, the years for which a score is

1 valid, and appropriate special accommodations. The State Board  
2 of Education shall develop such rules as may be needed to  
3 ensure uniformity from year to year in the level of difficulty  
4 for each form of an assessment.

5 (Source: P.A. 97-607, eff. 8-26-11.)".