



Sen. Robert Peters

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LRB103 36249 RJT 70389 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 2689

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 2689 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 21B-25 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-25)

7 Sec. 21B-25. Endorsement on licenses. All licenses issued
8 under paragraph (1) of Section 21B-20 of this Code shall be
9 specifically endorsed by the State Board of Education for each
10 content area, school support area, and administrative area for
11 which the holder of the license is qualified. Recognized
12 institutions approved to offer educator preparation programs
13 shall be trained to add endorsements to licenses issued to
14 applicants who meet all of the requirements for the
15 endorsement or endorsements, including passing any required
16 tests. The State Superintendent of Education shall randomly

1 audit institutions to ensure that all rules and standards are
2 being followed for entitlement or when endorsements are being
3 recommended.

4 (1) The State Board of Education, in consultation with
5 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall
6 establish, by rule, the grade level and subject area
7 endorsements to be added to the Professional Educator
8 License. These rules shall outline the requirements for
9 obtaining each endorsement.

10 (1.5) By June 1, 2025, the State Board of Education,
11 in consultation with the State Educator Preparation and
12 Licensure Board, shall establish, by rule, a Montessori
13 education endorsement to be added to a Professional
14 Educator License. The rules adopted under this paragraph
15 (1.5) shall outline the requirements for obtaining the
16 endorsement. The changes added to this Section by this
17 amendatory Act of the 103rd General Assembly are
18 inoperative on and after January 1, 2026.

19 (2) In addition to any and all grade level and content
20 area endorsements developed by rule, the State Board of
21 Education, in consultation with the State Educator
22 Preparation and Licensure Board, shall develop the
23 requirements for the following endorsements:

24 (A) (Blank).

25 (B) Principal endorsement. A principal endorsement
26 shall be affixed to a Professional Educator License of

1 any holder who qualifies by having all of the
2 following:

3 (i) Successful completion of a principal
4 preparation program approved in accordance with
5 Section 21B-60 of this Code and any applicable
6 rules.

7 (ii) At least 4 total years of teaching or 4
8 total years of working in the capacity of school
9 support personnel in an Illinois public school or
10 nonpublic school recognized by the State Board of
11 Education, in a school under the supervision of
12 the Department of Corrections, or in an
13 out-of-state public school or out-of-state
14 nonpublic school meeting out-of-state recognition
15 standards comparable to those approved by the
16 State Superintendent of Education; however, the
17 State Board of Education, in consultation with the
18 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board,
19 shall allow, by rules, for fewer than 4 years of
20 experience based on meeting standards set forth in
21 such rules, including without limitation a review
22 of performance evaluations or other evidence of
23 demonstrated qualifications.

24 (iii) A master's degree or higher from a
25 regionally accredited college or university.

26 (C) Chief school business official endorsement. A

1 chief school business official endorsement shall be
2 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any
3 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree or
4 higher, 2 years of full-time administrative experience
5 in school business management or 2 years of
6 university-approved practical experience, and a
7 minimum of 24 semester hours of graduate credit in a
8 program approved by the State Board of Education for
9 the preparation of school business administrators and
10 by passage of the applicable State tests. The chief
11 school business official endorsement may also be
12 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any
13 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree in
14 business administration, finance, accounting, or
15 public administration and who completes an additional
16 6 semester hours of internship in school business
17 management from a regionally accredited institution of
18 higher education and passes the applicable State
19 tests. This endorsement shall be required for any
20 individual employed as a chief school business
21 official.

22 (D) Superintendent endorsement. A superintendent
23 endorsement shall be affixed to the Professional
24 Educator License of any holder who has completed a
25 program approved by the State Board of Education for
26 the preparation of superintendents of schools, has had

1 at least 2 years of experience employed full-time in a
2 general administrative position or as a full-time
3 principal, director of special education, or chief
4 school business official in the public schools or in a
5 State-recognized nonpublic school in which the chief
6 administrator is required to have the licensure
7 necessary to be a principal in a public school in this
8 State and where a majority of the teachers are
9 required to have the licensure necessary to be
10 instructors in a public school in this State, and has
11 passed the required State tests; or of any holder who
12 has completed a program that is not an
13 Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an
14 Illinois institution of higher education and that has
15 recognition standards comparable to those approved by
16 the State Superintendent of Education and holds the
17 general administrative, principal, or chief school
18 business official endorsement and who has had 2 years
19 of experience as a principal, director of special
20 education, or chief school business official while
21 holding a valid educator license or certificate
22 comparable in validity and educational and experience
23 requirements and has passed the appropriate State
24 tests, as provided in Section 21B-30 of this Code. The
25 superintendent endorsement shall allow individuals to
26 serve only as a superintendent or assistant

1 superintendent.

2 (E) Teacher leader endorsement. It shall be the
3 policy of this State to improve the quality of
4 instructional leaders by providing a career pathway
5 for teachers interested in serving in leadership
6 roles, but not as principals. The State Board of
7 Education, in consultation with the State Educator
8 Preparation and Licensure Board, may issue a teacher
9 leader endorsement under this subdivision (E). Persons
10 who meet and successfully complete the requirements of
11 the endorsement shall be issued a teacher leader
12 endorsement on the Professional Educator License for
13 serving in schools in this State. Teacher leaders may
14 qualify to serve in such positions as department
15 chairs, coaches, mentors, curriculum and instruction
16 leaders, or other leadership positions as defined by
17 the district. The endorsement shall be available to
18 those teachers who (i) hold a Professional Educator
19 License, (ii) hold a master's degree or higher from a
20 regionally accredited institution, (iii) have
21 completed a program of study that has been approved by
22 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the
23 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, and
24 (iv) have successfully demonstrated competencies as
25 defined by rule.

26 A teacher who meets the requirements set forth in

1 this Section and holds a teacher leader endorsement
2 may evaluate teachers pursuant to Section 24A-5 of
3 this Code, provided that the individual has completed
4 the evaluation component required by Section 24A-3 of
5 this Code and a teacher leader is allowed to evaluate
6 personnel under the respective school district's
7 collective bargaining agreement.

8 The State Board of Education, in consultation with
9 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board,
10 may adopt such rules as may be necessary to establish
11 and implement the teacher leader endorsement program
12 and to specify the positions for which this
13 endorsement shall be required.

14 (F) Special education endorsement. A special
15 education endorsement in one or more areas shall be
16 affixed to a Professional Educator License for any
17 individual that meets those requirements established
18 by the State Board of Education in rules. Special
19 education endorsement areas shall include without
20 limitation the following:

- 21 (i) Learning Behavior Specialist I;
- 22 (ii) Learning Behavior Specialist II;
- 23 (iii) Speech Language Pathologist;
- 24 (iv) Blind or Visually Impaired;
- 25 (v) Deaf-Hard of Hearing;
- 26 (vi) Early Childhood Special Education; and

1 (vii) Director of Special Education.

2 Notwithstanding anything in this Code to the contrary,
3 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the
4 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may
5 add additional areas of special education by rule.

6 (G) School support personnel endorsement. School
7 support personnel endorsement areas shall include, but
8 are not limited to, school counselor, marriage and
9 family therapist, school psychologist, school speech
10 and language pathologist, school nurse, and school
11 social worker. This endorsement is for individuals who
12 are not teachers or administrators, but still require
13 licensure to work in an instructional support position
14 in a public or State-operated elementary school,
15 secondary school, or cooperative or joint agreement
16 with a governing body or board of control or a charter
17 school operating in compliance with the Charter
18 Schools Law. The school support personnel endorsement
19 shall be affixed to the Professional Educator License
20 and shall meet all of the requirements established in
21 any rules adopted to implement this subdivision (G).
22 The holder of such an endorsement is entitled to all of
23 the rights and privileges granted holders of any other
24 Professional Educator License, including teacher
25 benefits, compensation, and working conditions.

26 (Source: P.A. 100-13, eff. 7-1-17; 100-267, eff. 8-22-17;

1 100-288, eff. 8-24-17; 100-596, eff. 7-1-18; 100-780, eff.
2 1-1-19; 100-863, eff. 8-14-18; 101-81, eff. 7-12-19; 101-220,
3 eff. 8-7-19.)".