

HB342 INTRODUCED



1 XSPIEE-1
2 By Representative DuBose
3 RFD: Education Policy
4 First Read: 18-Apr-23
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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, the State Superintendent of Education is authorized to issue professional educator certificates to qualified individuals who complete an alternative teacher preparation program offered by an approved alternative teacher education preparation organization.

This bill would provide additional requirements for programs.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to alternative teacher preparation programs and teacher certification; to amend Section 2 of Act 2022-239, 2022 Regular Session, now appearing as Section 16-23-3.1, Code of Alabama 1975, to provide additional requirements for programs.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 2 of Act 2022-239, 2022 Regular Session, now appearing as Section 16-23-3.1, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§16-23-3.1



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29 (a) The State of Alabama shall modify its policies
30 relative to the certification of teachers to permit the
31 issuance of a professional educator certificate to those
32 qualified individuals who successfully complete an approved
33 alternative teacher preparation program. In addition to any
34 provisional certificates and professional certificates issued
35 pursuant to this chapter to individuals graduating from
36 approved teacher education programs, the State Board of
37 Education shall authorize the issuance of a professional
38 educator certificate by the State Superintendent of Education
39 to a qualified individual who completes an approved
40 alternative teacher preparation program.

41 (b) The State Superintendent of Education shall
42 maintain a database of alternative teacher education
43 preparation organizations, approved by the State Board of
44 Education, as a means for screening, recruiting, and
45 recommending for certification qualified individuals to teach
46 in the public K-12 schools. An approved alternative teacher
47 education preparation organization, ~~at a minimum,~~ shall
48 require each applicant whom the approved organization
49 recommends for initial licensure to satisfy all of the
50 following:

51 (1) Hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited
52 institution of higher education which offers, at a minimum,
53 junior and senior level courses of instruction.

54 (2) Successfully pass a criminal history background
55 information check.

56 (3) Successfully complete an alternative teacher



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57 preparation program offered by the approved organization.

58 (c) ~~In~~ Any provision of law to the contrary
59 notwithstanding, in determining which alternative teacher
60 education preparation organizations to approve, the State
61 Board of Education, ~~may shall~~ consider ~~prerequisites~~
62 ~~including, but not limited to,~~ only the following
63 prerequisites:

64 (1) Successful operation in at least five states.

65 (2) Successful operation of an alternative teacher
66 education preparation program for at least 10 years.

67 (3) Requirement that an applicant pass a subject area
68 examination, professional teaching examination, or both.

69 (4) Evidence of successfully certifying at least 10,000
70 teachers in the United States.

71 (d) An individual who is granted a professional
72 educator certificate pursuant to this section may teach in the
73 subject areas and at the educational levels he or she has
74 successfully completed through the alternative teacher
75 preparation program offered by the approved alternative
76 teacher education preparation organization.

77 (e) An individual who holds a professional educator
78 certificate pursuant to this section may apply for a
79 professional renewal license and shall in all other respects
80 be treated in the same manner as an individual who holds a
81 professional educator certificate granted upon successful
82 completion of traditional, in-state teaching certification
83 programs."

84 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the first



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85 day of the third month following its passage and approval by
86 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.