HB308 ENGROSSED



- 1 HB308
- 2 WIGT599-2
- 3 By Representatives Collins, DuBose
- 4 RFD: Education Policy
- 5 First Read: 07-Mar-24

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5	A BILL
6	TO BE ENTITLED
7	AN ACT
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9	Relating to alternative teacher certification; to amend
10	Section 16-23-3.1, Code of Alabama 1975, as last amended by
11	Act 2023-451, 2023 Regular Session; to provide that an
12	additional method by which certain alternative teacher
13	examination preparation programs may be approved by the State
14	Board of Education; and to make nonsubstantive, technical
15	revisions to update the existing code language to current
16	style.
17	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
18	Section 1. Section 16-23-3.1, Code of Alabama 1975, as
19	last amended by Act 2023-451, 2023 Regular Session, is amended
20	to read as follows:
21	" §16-23-3.1
22	(a) The State of Alabama shall modify its policies
23	relative to the certification of teachers to permit the
24	issuance of a professional educator certificate to those
25	qualified individuals who successfully complete an approved
26	alternative teacher preparation program. In addition to any
27	provisional certificates and professional certificates issued
28	pursuant to this chapter to individuals graduating from

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- 29 approved teacher education programs, the State Board of
- 30 Education shall authorize the issuance of a professional
- 31 educator certificate by the State Superintendent of Education
- 32 to a qualified individual who completes an approved
- 33 alternative teacher preparation program.
- 34 (b) The State Superintendent of Education shall
- 35 maintain a database of alternative teacher education
- 36 preparation organizations, approved by the State Board of
- 37 Education, as a means for screening, recruiting, and
- 38 recommending for certification qualified individuals to teach
- in the public K-12 schools. An approved alternative teacher
- 40 education preparation organization, at a minimum, shall
- 41 require each applicant whom the approved organization
- 42 recommends for initial licensure to satisfy all of the
- 43 following:
- (1) Hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited
- institution of higher education which offers, at a minimum,
- 46 junior and senior level courses of instruction.
- 47 (2) Successfully pass a criminal history background
- 48 information check.
- 49 (3) Successfully complete an alternative teacher
- 50 preparation program offered by the approved organization.
- 51 (c)(1) Any provision of law to the contrary
- 52 notwithstanding, in determining which alternative teacher
- 53 education preparation organizations to approve, the State
- 54 Board of Education shall consider only the following
- 55 prerequisites:
- a. Successful operation in at least five states and is

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- not on probation in any of those states. This requirement does not apply to two-year or four-year institutions of higher education operating in the state with state-approved programs.
- b. Successful operation of an alternative teachereducation preparation program for at least 10 years.

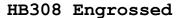
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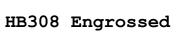
- c. Requirement that an applicant pass an examination that is substantively aligned with Alabama standards in subject area, pedagogy, or both.
 - d. Evidence of successfully certifying at least 10,000 teachers in the United States. This requirement does not apply to two-year or four-year institutions of higher education operating in the state with state-approved programs.
- 69 (2) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, if If an 70 alternative teacher education preparation organization does 71 not satisfy the prerequisites provided in paragraphs (1)a. through (1)d. subdivision (1), the alternative teacher 72 73 education preparation organization may be approved if the 74 organization is certified by the Council for the Accreditation 75 of Education Educator Preparation or the Association for 76 Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation. In order to qualify 77 for approval under this section, an alternative teacher 78 certification program organization certified by the 79 Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation must 80 have begun an application with the Council for the
- 81 Accreditation of Educator Preparation by April 1, 2024.
- Beginning October 1, 2026, certification by the Association
- for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation shall no longer
- 84 qualify an alternative teacher education preparation





85 organization for approval under this section.

- (d) An individual who is granted a professional educator certificate pursuant to this section may teach in the subject areas and at the educational levels he or she has successfully completed through the alternative teacher preparation program offered by the approved alternative teacher education preparation organization.
- (e) An individual who holds a professional educator certificate pursuant to this section may apply for a professional renewal license and shall in all other respects be treated in the same manner as an individual who holds a professional educator certificate granted upon successful completion of traditional, in-state teaching certification programs.
- 99 (f) An approved alternative teacher education
 100 preparation organization shall submit a detailed report to the
 101 State Board of Education annually detailing the number of
 102 individuals who completed the program during that year.
 - (g) Upon receiving an alternative certificate to teach pursuant to this section, the teacher shall participate in the Alabama Teacher Mentorship Program if hired by a local board of education that participates in the program."
- 107 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October 108 1, 2024.





109 110 111	House of Representatives
112 113 114 115	Read for the first time and referred07-Mar-24 to the House of Representatives committee on Education Policy
116 117 118 119	Read for the second time and placed04-Apr-24 on the calendar: 1 amendment
120 121 122 123 124 125 126	Read for the third time and passed
127 128 129	John Treadwell Clerk