

# HB342 ENGROSSED



1     XSPIEE-2  
2     By Representative DuBose  
3     RFD: Education Policy  
4     First Read: 18-Apr-23  
5  
6     2023 Regular Session



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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

(a) The State of Alabama shall modify its policies relative to the certification of teachers to permit the issuance of a professional educator certificate to those qualified individuals who successfully complete an approved alternative teacher preparation program. In addition to any provisional certificates and professional certificates issued pursuant to this chapter to individuals graduating from approved teacher education programs, the State Board of Education shall authorize the issuance of a professional educator certificate by the State Superintendent of Education



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to a qualified individual who completes an approved alternative teacher preparation program.

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

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

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

(3) Successfully complete an alternative teacher preparation program offered by the approved organization.

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

(1) Successful operation in at least five states and shall not be 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.

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

(3) Requirement that an applicant pass ~~a subject area examination, professional teaching examination, or both~~ an examination that is substantively aligned with Alabama standards in subject area, pedagogy, or both an examination that is substantively aligned with Alabama standards in subject area, pedagogy, or both.

(4) 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.

(5) If an alternative teacher education preparation organization does not satisfy the prerequisites provided in subdivisions (1) through (4), the alternative teacher education preparation organization may be approved if certified by the Council for the Accreditation of Education Preparation.

(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



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85 professional renewal license and shall in all other respects  
86 be treated in the same manner as an individual who holds a  
87 professional educator certificate granted upon successful  
88 completion of traditional, in-state teaching certification  
89 programs.

90 (f) An approved alternative teacher education  
91 preparation organization shall submit a detailed report to the  
92 State Board of Education annually detailing the number of  
93 individuals who completed the program during that year.

94 (g) Upon receiving an alternative certificate to teach  
95 pursuant to this section, the teacher shall participate in the  
96 Alabama Teacher Mentorship Program if hired by a local board  
97 of education that participates in the program. ~~were enrolled~~  
98 ~~in the program and the number of individuals who completed the~~  
99 ~~program during that year.~~"

100 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the first  
101 day of the third month following its passage and approval by  
102 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.



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House of Representatives

106 Read for the first time and referred .....18-Apr-23  
107 to the House of Representatives  
108 committee on Education Policy  
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110 Read for the second time and placed .....03-May-23  
111 on the calendar:  
112 1 amendment  
113  
114 Read for the third time and passed .....11-May-23  
115 as amended  
116 Yeas 83  
117 Nays 20  
118 Abstains 0  
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John Treadwell  
Clerk