

Introduced by Senator Scott

February 22, 2008

An act to amend Section 44259 of the Education Code, relating to teachers.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1677, as introduced, Scott. Teachers: credential requirements.

Existing law authorizes the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to issue various types of teaching credentials. Existing law establishes the minimum requirements for the professional clear multiple or single subject teaching credential, including completion of a program of beginning teacher induction. Existing law authorizes an alternative program of beginning teacher induction that meets state standards to apply for state funding.

This bill would specify that a program that provides preparation for teaching integrated curriculum and using project-based learning would be included among those programs eligible to apply for state funding.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 44259 of the Education Code is amended
- 2 to read:
- 3 44259. (a) Except as provided in subparagraphs (A) and (C)
- 4 of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b), each program of professional
- 5 preparation for multiple or single subject teaching credentials shall
- 6 not include more than one year of, or the equivalent of one-fifth
- 7 of a five-year program in, professional preparation.

1 (b) The minimum requirements for the preliminary multiple or
2 single subject teaching credential are all of the following:

3 (1) A baccalaureate degree or higher degree from a regionally
4 accredited institution of postsecondary education. Except as
5 provided in subdivision (c) of Section 44227, the baccalaureate
6 degree shall not be in professional education. The commission
7 shall encourage accredited institutions to offer undergraduate
8 minors in education and special education to students who intend
9 to become teachers.

10 (2) Passage of the state basic skills examination that is developed
11 and administered by the commission pursuant to Section 44252.5.

12 (3) Satisfactory completion of a program of professional
13 preparation that has been accredited by the committee on
14 accreditation on the basis of standards of program quality and
15 effectiveness that have been adopted by the commission. In
16 accordance with the commission's assessment and performance
17 standards, each program shall include a teaching performance
18 assessment as set forth in Section 44320.2 which is aligned with
19 the California Standards for the Teaching Profession. The
20 commission shall ensure that each candidate recommended for a
21 credential or certificate has demonstrated satisfactory ability to
22 assist pupils to meet or exceed state content and performance
23 standards for pupils adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section
24 60605. Programs that meet this requirement for professional
25 preparation shall include any of the following:

26 (A) Integrated programs of subject matter preparation and
27 professional preparation pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section
28 44259.1.

29 (B) Postbaccalaureate programs of professional preparation,
30 pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 44259.1.

31 (C) Internship programs of professional preparation, pursuant
32 to Section 44321, Article 7.5 (commencing with Section 44325),
33 Article 11 (commencing with Section 44380), and Article 3
34 (commencing with Section 44450) of Chapter 3.

35 (4) Study of alternative methods of developing English language
36 skills, including the study of reading as described in subparagraphs
37 (A) and (B), among all pupils, including those for whom English
38 is a second language, in accordance with the commission's
39 standards of program quality and effectiveness. The study of
40 reading shall meet the following requirements:

1 (A) Commencing January 1, 1997, satisfactory completion of
2 comprehensive reading instruction that is research-based and
3 includes all of the following:

4 (i) The study of organized, systematic, explicit skills including
5 phonemic awareness, direct, systematic, explicit phonics, and
6 decoding skills.

7 (ii) A strong literature, language, and comprehension component
8 with a balance of oral and written language.

9 (iii) Ongoing diagnostic techniques that inform teaching and
10 assessment.

11 (iv) Early intervention techniques.

12 (v) Guided practice in a clinical setting.

13 (B) For the purposes of this section, “direct, systematic, explicit
14 phonics” means phonemic awareness, spelling patterns, the direct
15 instruction of sound/symbol codes and practice in connected text
16 and the relationship of direct, systematic, explicit phonics to the
17 components set forth in clauses (i) to (v), inclusive, *of*
18 *subparagraph (A)*.

19 A program for the multiple subjects credential also shall include
20 the study of integrated methods of teaching language arts.

21 (5) Completion of a subject matter program that has been
22 approved by the commission on the basis of standards of program
23 quality and effectiveness pursuant to Article 6 (commencing with
24 Section 44310) or passage of a subject matter examination pursuant
25 to Article 5 (commencing with Section 44280). The commission
26 shall ensure that subject matter standards and examinations are
27 aligned with the state content and performance standards for pupils
28 adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 60605.

29 (6) Demonstration of a knowledge of the principles and
30 provisions of the Constitution of the United States pursuant to
31 Section 44335.

32 (7) Commencing January 1, 2000, demonstration, in accordance
33 with the commission’s standards of program quality and
34 effectiveness, of basic competency in the use of computers in the
35 classroom as determined by one of the following:

36 (A) Successful completion of a commission-approved program
37 or course.

38 (B) Successful passage of an assessment that is developed,
39 approved, and administered by the commission.

1 (c) The minimum requirements for the professional clear
2 multiple or single subject teaching credential shall include all of
3 the following requirements:

4 (1) Possession of a valid preliminary teaching credential, as
5 prescribed in subdivision (b), possession of a valid equivalent
6 credential or certificate, or completion of equivalent requirements
7 as determined by the commission.

8 (2) Subject to the availability of funds in the annual Budget Act
9 to provide statewide access to eligible beginning teachers, as
10 defined in subdivision (d) of Section 44279.1 and except as
11 provided in paragraph (3), completion of a program of beginning
12 teacher induction, including one of the following:

13 (A) A program of beginning teacher support and assessment
14 approved by the commission and the Superintendent pursuant to
15 Section 44279.1, a provision of the Marian Bergeson Beginning
16 Teacher Support and Assessment System.

17 (B) An alternative program of beginning teacher induction that
18 is provided by one or more local educational agencies and has
19 been approved by the commission and the Superintendent on the
20 basis of initial review and periodic evaluations of the program in
21 relation to appropriate standards of credential program quality and
22 effectiveness that have been adopted by the commission, the
23 Superintendent, and the state board pursuant to this subdivision.
24 The standards for alternative programs shall encourage innovation,
25 *collaboration*, and experimentation in the continuous preparation
26 and induction of beginning teachers. ~~Any~~ *An* alternative program
27 of beginning teacher induction that has met state standards pursuant
28 to this subdivision *including, but not limited to, a program that*
29 *provides preparation for teaching integrated curriculum and using*
30 *project-based learning*, may apply for state funding pursuant to
31 Sections 44279.1 and 44279.2.

32 (C) An alternative program of beginning teacher induction that
33 is sponsored by a regionally accredited college or university, in
34 cooperation with one or more local school districts, that addresses
35 the individual professional needs of beginning teachers and meets
36 the commission's standards of induction. The commission shall
37 ensure that preparation and induction programs that qualify
38 candidates for professional credentials extend and refine each
39 beginning teacher's professional skills in relation to the California

1 Standards for the Teaching Profession and the standards of pupil
2 performance adopted pursuant to Section 60605.

3 (3) (A) If a candidate satisfies the requirements of subdivision
4 (b), including completion of an accredited internship program of
5 professional preparation, and if that internship program fulfills
6 induction standards and is approved as set forth in this subdivision,
7 the commission shall determine that the candidate has fulfilled the
8 requirements of paragraph (2).

9 (B) If an approved induction program is verified as unavailable
10 to a beginning teacher, or if the beginning teacher is required under
11 the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (20 U.S.C. Sec. 6301
12 et seq.) to complete subject matter coursework to be qualified for
13 a teaching assignment, the commission shall accept completion of
14 an approved fifth-year program after completion of a baccalaureate
15 degree at a regionally accredited institution as fulfilling the
16 requirements of paragraph (2). The commission shall adopt
17 regulations to implement this subparagraph.

18 (4) Experience that includes the application of knowledge and
19 skills previously acquired in a preliminary credential program, in
20 accordance with commission standards, that addresses the
21 following:

22 (A) Health education, including study of nutrition,
23 cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the physiological and
24 sociological effects of abuse of alcohol, narcotics, and drugs and
25 the use of tobacco. Training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation *also*
26 shall ~~also~~ meet the standards established by the American Heart
27 Association or the American Red Cross.

28 (B) Field experience in methods of delivering appropriate
29 educational services to pupils with exceptional needs in regular
30 education programs.

31 (C) Advanced computer-based technology, including the uses
32 of technology in educational settings.

33 (d) The commission shall develop and implement standards of
34 program quality and effectiveness that provide for the areas of
35 application listed in subparagraphs (A) to (C), inclusive, of
36 paragraph (4) of subdivision (c), starting in professional preparation
37 and continuing through induction.

38 (e) A credential that was issued prior to January 1, 1993, shall
39 remain in force as long as it is valid under the laws and regulations
40 that were in effect on the date it was issued. The commission ~~may~~

1 *shall not invalidate*, by regulation, ~~invalidate~~ an otherwise valid
2 credential, unless it issues to the holder of the credential, in
3 substitution, a new credential authorized by another provision in
4 this chapter that is no more restrictive than the credential for which
5 it was substituted with respect to the kind of service authorized
6 and the grades, classes, or types of schools in which it authorizes
7 service.

8 (f) A credential program that is approved by the commission
9 ~~may~~ *shall* not deny an individual access to that program solely on
10 the grounds that the individual obtained a teaching credential
11 through completion of an internship program when that internship
12 program has been accredited by the commission.

13 (g) Notwithstanding this section, persons who were performing
14 teaching services as of January 1, 1999, pursuant to the language
15 of this section that was in effect prior to that date, may continue
16 to perform those services without complying with ~~any~~ *the*
17 requirements that may be added by the amendments adding this
18 subdivision.

19 (h) Subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (4) of subdivision
20 (b) do not apply to ~~any~~ *a* person who, as of January 1, 1997, holds
21 a multiple or single subject teaching credential, or to ~~any~~ *a* person
22 enrolled in a program of professional preparation for a multiple
23 or single subject teaching credential as of January 1, 1997, who
24 subsequently completes that program. It is the intent of the
25 Legislature that the requirements of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of
26 paragraph (4) of subdivision (b) be applied only to persons who
27 enter a program of professional preparation on or after January 1,
28 1997.