

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 28, 1995

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1995–96 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1124

Introduced by Assembly Member Davis

February 23, 1995

An act to amend ~~Section 44258.3~~ *Sections 44258.3 and 44258.7* of the Education Code, relating to teaching credentials.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1124, as amended, Davis. Teaching credentials: ~~instruction in self-contained classrooms~~ *assignments*.

(1) Existing law permits the governing board of a school district to assign a teacher who holds a credential authorizing instruction in a self-contained classroom to teach any subjects in departmentalized classes in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 8, inclusive, if the teacher consents to that assignment and the board verifies, in accordance with specified policies and procedures, *including specific criteria*, that the teacher has adequate subject matter knowledge. *Existing law requires that the governing board of a school district involve subject matter specialists in the development of those policies and procedures.* Existing law *also* requires that those teaching assignments be reviewed annually, ~~and that the exclusive representative of the certificated employees be notified of each such assignment.~~ School districts and county superintendents of schools are required to report those

~~assignments pursuant to specified existing law by the governing board of the school district.~~

Existing law additionally authorizes the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to develop and recommend model criteria, standards, and procedures that school district governing boards may use in making those assignments to departmentalized classes. The commission is required, to the extent that funds are provided from the Teacher Credentials Fund for that purpose, to study the implementation of those provisions, and to report the results to the Legislature on or before January 1, 1995. Existing law provides that those provisions are repealed as of January 1, 1996.

This bill, instead, would permit the governing board of a school district to assign a teacher who holds a credential, other than an emergency permit, to teach any subjects in departmentalized classes in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive. This bill would change the criteria for verifying adequacy of subject matter knowledge to include demonstrated knowledge of the curriculum framework for the subject to be taught and specific content of the course of study in the school district for the subject. This bill would also define subject matter specialists.

This bill would eliminate the annual review of teaching assignments. The bill would also authorize the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to suspend the authority of a school district to use this teaching assignment option upon finding that the school district violated any of these provisions.

This bill would ~~instead repeal those provisions as of January 1, 2000~~ eliminate the requirements that the Commission on Teacher Credentialing study the implementation of these provisions and report the results to the Legislature. The bill would also delete the repeal date.

(2) Existing law provides that a teacher employed on a full-time basis who has special skills and preparation outside of his or her credential authorization may be assigned to teach in the area of the special skills or preparation for up to 40% of a full-time teaching assignment, as specified.

This bill would specify that the assignment shall be to teach an elective course, as defined, in the area of the special skills or preparation, and would eliminate the requirement that the



assignment be for up to 40% of a full-time teaching assignment.

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 44258.3 of the Education Code is
2 amended to read:

3 44258.3. (a) The governing board of a school district
4 may assign the holder of a credential ~~authorizing~~
5 ~~instruction in a self-contained classroom, other than an~~
6 ~~emergency permit,~~ to teach any subjects in
7 departmentalized classes in kindergarten or any of grades
8 1 to & 12, inclusive, provided that the governing board
9 verifies, *prior to making the assignment,* that the teacher
10 has adequate knowledge of each subject to be taught and
11 the teacher consents to that assignment. The governing
12 board shall ~~establish~~ *adopt* policies and procedures for the
13 purpose of verifying the adequacy of subject knowledge
14 on the part of each of those teachers. The governing
15 board shall involve subject matter specialists in the
16 subjects commonly taught in the district in the
17 development *and implementation* of the policies and
18 procedures, and shall include in those policies and
19 procedures ~~all~~ *both* of the following:

20 ~~(1) One or more ways for teachers to attain subject~~
21 ~~matter competence other than completion of college or~~
22 ~~university coursework, including, but not limited to,~~
23 ~~successful prior teaching experience, self-directed study,~~
24 ~~completion of internships, study with a mentor teacher,~~
25 ~~curriculum institutes, work experience, or systematic~~
26 ~~programs of professional development.~~

27 ~~(2) One or more~~
28 ~~(1) One or more of the following~~ ways to assess subject
29 matter ~~— competence, including, but not limited to,~~
30 ~~observation by subject matter specialists, oral interviews,~~
31 ~~demonstration lessons, presentation of curricular~~
32 ~~portfolios, or written examinations.~~

33 ~~(3) competence:~~



1 (A) Observation by subject matter specialists, as
2 defined in subdivision (d).

3 (B) Oral interviews.

4 (C) Demonstration lessons.

5 (D) Presentation of curricular portfolios.

6 (E) Written examinations.

7 (2) Specific criteria and standards for verifying
8 adequacy of subject matter knowledge using any of the
9 methods in paragraph (1) ~~or (2), or paragraphs (1) and~~
10 ~~(2)~~. *The criteria shall include, but need not be limited to,*
11 *evidence of the candidate's knowledge of the subject*
12 *matter to be taught, including demonstrated knowledge*
13 *of the curriculum framework for the subject to be taught*
14 *and the specific content of the course of study in the*
15 *school district for the subject, at the grade level to be*
16 *taught.*

17 (b) Teaching assignments made pursuant to this
18 section shall be ~~reviewed annually by the governing~~
19 ~~board of the school district, and shall be~~ valid only in that
20 school district. The principal of the school, or other
21 appropriate administrator, shall notify the exclusive
22 representative of the certificated employees for that
23 school district, as provided under Chapter 10.7
24 (commencing with Section 3540) of Division 4 of Title 1
25 of the Government Code, of each instance in which a
26 teacher is assigned to teach classes pursuant to this
27 section. Any school district policy or procedures adopted
28 and teaching assignments made pursuant to this section
29 shall be included in the report required by subdivisions
30 (a) and (e) of Section 44258.9. *The Commission on*
31 *Teacher Credentialing may suspend the authority of a*
32 *school district to use the teaching assignment option*
33 *authorized by this section upon a finding that the school*
34 *district has violated the provisions of this section.*

35 ~~(e) The Commission on Teacher Credentialing may~~
36 ~~develop and recommend model criteria, standards, and~~
37 ~~procedures that may be used by governing boards of~~
38 ~~school districts in assigning teachers under this section.~~

39 ~~(d) To the extent that funds are provided from the~~
40 ~~Teacher Credentials Fund for that purpose, the~~



1 ~~commission shall study the implementation of this section~~
2 ~~and shall report to the Legislature on or before January~~
3 ~~1, 1995, on the nature, scope, and impact of local~~
4 ~~assignment policies implemented by school districts~~
5 ~~pursuant to this section.~~

6 ~~(e)~~

7 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to alter
8 the effect of Section 44955 with regard to the reduction
9 by a school district governing board of the number of
10 certificated employees.

11 ~~(f) This section shall be repealed on January 1, 2000,~~
12 ~~unless a later enacted statute, which becomes effective on~~
13 ~~or before January 1, 2000, deletes or extends that date on~~
14 ~~which it is repealed.~~

15 (d) *For the purposes of this section, "subject matter*
16 *specialists" are mentor teachers, curriculum specialists,*
17 *resource teachers, classroom teachers certified to teach a*
18 *subject, staff to regional subject matter projects or*
19 *curriculum institutes, or college faculty.*

20 *SEC. 2. Section 44258.7 of the Education Code is*
21 *amended to read:*

22 44258.7. (a) The holder of a standard secondary
23 credential who, prior to September 1, 1989, has taught
24 successfully in a subject within the department of his or
25 her academic major or minor for a minimum of three
26 years, as verified by the employing school district, may
27 receive a supplementary authorization in that subject
28 upon application, payment of a fee, which shall not
29 exceed one-half of the regular credential fee, and
30 evidence that one of the following has been
31 accomplished:

32 (1) Successful completion, by September 1, 1989, of a
33 minimum of 12 semester units, or six upper division or
34 graduate units, of coursework at an accredited institution
35 in the subject.

36 (2) The securing of a passing score on an examination
37 in the subject approved by the Commission on Teacher
38 Credentialing.



1 (3) Verification of competence in the subject matter
 2 by a subject area specialist not associated with the
 3 employing school district.

4 (b) A person who holds a teaching credential in a
 5 subject or subjects other than physical education may be
 6 authorized by action of the local governing board to
 7 coach one period per day in a competitive sport for which
 8 students receive physical education credit, provided that
 9 he or she is a full-time employee of the school district and
 10 has completed a minimum of 20 hours of first aid
 11 instruction appropriate for the specific sport.

12 (c) A teacher employed on a full-time basis *who*
 13 *teaches kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive,*
 14 *and* who has special skills and preparation outside of his
 15 or her credential authorization may, with his or her
 16 consent, be assigned to teach *an elective course* in the
 17 area of ~~such~~ *the* special skills or preparation ~~for up to 40~~
 18 ~~percent of a full-time teaching assignment,~~ provided that
 19 the assignment is first approved by a committee on
 20 assignments. *For purposes of this subdivision an "elective*
 21 *course" is a course other than English, mathematics,*
 22 *science, or social studies.* The membership of the
 23 committee on assignments shall include an equal number
 24 of teachers, selected by teachers, and school
 25 administrators, selected by school administrators.

26 (d) Assignments approved by the committee on
 27 assignments shall be for a maximum of one school year,
 28 but may be extended by action of the committee upon
 29 application by the schoolsite administrator and the
 30 affected teacher. All initial assignments ~~and~~ *or* extensions
 31 shall be approved prior to the ~~beginning of the semester~~
 32 ~~in which the assignment is to take place or extension.~~
 33 Districts making assignments under this subdivision shall
 34 submit a plan to the county superintendent of schools
 35 which shall include, but need not be limited to, the
 36 following:

37 (1) Statements signed by the district superintendent
 38 and the president or chairperson of the district governing
 39 board, approving the establishment of the committee.



1 (2) Procedures for selection of the committee
2 membership.

3 (3) Terms of office for committee members.

4 (4) Criteria for determining teachers' qualifications
5 for these assignments.

6 (e) The Commission on Teacher Credentialing may
7 develop and recommend general criteria that may be
8 used by local committees on assignment in assessing a
9 candidate's qualifications.

O

