

**SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 354**

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled
"The revised school code,"
by amending section 1531 (MCL 380.1531), as amended by 2023 PA 110.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1531. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this act, the
2 superintendent of public instruction shall determine the
3 requirements for and issue all licenses, certificates, and
4 endorsements for teachers, including preprimary teachers and
5 teachers as counselors, in the public schools of this state.

6 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this act, the
7 superintendent of public instruction shall ~~only~~ issue a teaching
8 certificate or additional endorsement **only** to an individual who has
9 passed appropriate available examinations. ~~The superintendent of~~



1 ~~public instruction may accept passage of~~ **An individual is**
2 **considered to have passed the appropriate available examinations if**
3 **any of the following apply:**

4 (a) **The individual passed the examinations described in**
5 **subsection (9).**

6 (b) **For an individual who holds or is eligible for a valid**
7 **teaching certificate in another state or with a federally**
8 **recognized Indian tribe, the individual passed an equivalent**
9 **examination that meets both of the following:**

10 (i) ~~Is approved by the superintendent of public instruction to~~
11 ~~meet this requirement for an individual holding a teaching~~
12 ~~certificate from another state, country, or federally recognized~~
13 ~~Indian tribe.~~ **state or federally recognized Indian tribe that issued**
14 **the individual's teaching certificate.**

15 (ii) **Is already in existence as of the effective date of the**
16 **amendatory act that added this subparagraph.**

17 (c) **For an individual who holds or is eligible for a valid**
18 **teaching certificate in another country, the individual passed an**
19 **equivalent examination approved by the superintendent of public**
20 **instruction.**

21 (3) **Except as otherwise provided in this act, the**
22 **superintendent of public instruction shall ~~only~~ issue a teaching**
23 **certificate **only** to an individual who has met the elementary or**
24 **secondary, as applicable, reading credit requirements established**
25 **under superintendent of public instruction rule. If an individual**
26 **holds a teaching certificate, notwithstanding any rule to the**
27 **contrary, the superintendent of public instruction shall not**
28 **advance the individual's certification to professional**
29 **certification unless the individual has successfully completed at**



1 least a 3-credit course of study with appropriate field experiences
2 in the diagnosis and remediation of reading disabilities and
3 differentiated instruction. To meet this requirement, the course of
4 study should include the following elements, as determined by the
5 department to be appropriate for the individual's certification
6 level and endorsements: interest inventories, English language
7 learning screening, visual and auditory discrimination tools,
8 language expression and processing screening, phonemics, phonics,
9 vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, spelling and writing assessment
10 tools, and instructional strategies. An individual may complete the
11 course of study as part of ~~his or her~~ **the individual's** teacher
12 preparation program.

13 (4) Any revisions to existing reading standards must include
14 the recognition of reading disorders and enable teachers to make
15 referrals for instruction and support for pupils with reading
16 disorders.

17 (5) Subject to subsection (8), if an individual holding a
18 teaching certificate from another state, country, or federally
19 recognized Indian tribe applies to the superintendent of public
20 instruction for a Michigan teaching certificate and meets the
21 requirements of this subsection, the superintendent of public
22 instruction shall issue to the individual a Michigan teaching
23 certificate and endorsements comparable to those the individual
24 holds in the other state or country or with the federally
25 recognized Indian tribe without requiring the individual to pass
26 the appropriate examinations otherwise required under subsection
27 (2) or to complete the reading credit requirement established under
28 superintendent of public instruction rule as described in
29 subsection (3). To be eligible to receive a Michigan teaching



1 certificate under this subsection, an individual shall provide
2 evidence satisfactory to the department that ~~he or she~~ **the**
3 **individual** has taught successfully for at least 3 years in a
4 position for which the individual's teaching certification from the
5 other state, country, or federally recognized Indian tribe was
6 valid.

7 (6) Subject to subsection (8), an individual holding a
8 teaching certificate from another state, country, or federally
9 recognized Indian tribe is eligible for a Michigan professional
10 education certificate if the individual meets both of the
11 following:

12 (a) The individual has taught successfully for at least 3
13 years in a position for which the individual's teaching
14 certification from the other state, country, or federally
15 recognized Indian tribe was valid.

16 (b) The individual meets the elementary or secondary, as
17 applicable, reading credit requirement established under
18 superintendent of public instruction rule as described in
19 subsection (3).

20 (7) Subject to subsection (8), if an individual holding a
21 teaching certificate from another state, country, or federally
22 recognized Indian tribe applies to the superintendent of public
23 instruction for an additional endorsement on a valid Michigan
24 teaching certificate and meets the requirements of this subsection,
25 the superintendent of public instruction shall issue the individual
26 an endorsement comparable to that which the individual holds in the
27 other state or country or with the federally recognized Indian
28 tribe without requiring that the individual pass the appropriate
29 available examinations otherwise required under subsection (2). To



1 be eligible to receive an additional endorsement under this
 2 subsection, an individual shall provide evidence satisfactory to
 3 the department that ~~he or she~~ **the individual** has taught
 4 successfully for at least 3 years in a position for which the
 5 individual's teaching endorsement from the other state, country, or
 6 federally recognized Indian tribe is valid.

7 (8) The superintendent of public instruction shall deny a
 8 Michigan teaching certificate or endorsement to an individual
 9 described in subsection (5), (6), or (7) for fraud, material
 10 misrepresentation, or concealment in the individual's application
 11 for a certificate or for a conviction for which an individual's
 12 teaching certificate may be suspended or revoked under section
 13 1535a.

14 (9) For the purposes of this section, the superintendent of
 15 public instruction, based ~~upon~~ **on** criteria recommended by a
 16 committee of teachers, representatives of approved teacher
 17 education institutions, Michigan education organizations and
 18 associations, and experts in measurement and assessment, shall
 19 develop, select, or develop and select 1 or more subject area
 20 examinations. In addition, the superintendent of public
 21 instruction, based ~~upon~~ **on** criteria recommended by the committee
 22 described in this subsection, shall approve a reading subtest to be
 23 taken and passed by individuals seeking pre-K to grade 3 or grade 3
 24 to grade 6-level endorsement. If the department develops for use
 25 under this subsection an examination that had previously been
 26 contracted for using a competitive bid process, ~~then~~ the department
 27 shall not expend on the development of that examination an amount
 28 that exceeds the amount that the department expended on procurement
 29 of the most recent competitively-bid version of that examination.



1 The competitive bid process must address validity, reliability, and
2 other technical standards of the examinations and of the
3 appropriate administration and use of those examinations.

4 (10) ~~Not~~ **By not** later than November 30 of each year, the
5 superintendent of public instruction shall submit in writing a
6 report on the development or selection and use of the subject area
7 examinations to the house and senate education committees. The
8 report must also contain a financial statement regarding revenue
9 received from the assessment of fees levied under subsection (12)
10 and the amount of and any purposes for which that revenue was
11 expended.

12 (11) The examinations required by this section may be taken at
13 different times during an approved teacher preparation program, but
14 the examinations, as applicable, must be passed before an
15 individual is recommended for certification.

16 (12) The department, or if approved by the superintendent of
17 public instruction, a private testing service, may assess fees for
18 taking the appropriate available examinations described in
19 subsection (2). The fees, which must be set by the superintendent
20 of public instruction, must not exceed the actual cost of the
21 examination and of administering the examination. Fees received by
22 the department must be expended solely for administrative expenses
23 that it incurs in implementing this section. If the superintendent
24 of public instruction increases a fee charged for an examination
25 under this subsection, at least 1 year before implementing the fee
26 increase, the department shall notify each approved teacher
27 education institution of the amount of the fee increase. An
28 approved teacher education institution shall notify each of its
29 affected students of the timing and amount of such a fee increase.



1 (13) If an individual holding a teaching certificate from
2 another state, country, or federally recognized Indian tribe
3 applies for a Michigan teaching certificate and meets all
4 requirements for the Michigan teaching certificate except passage
5 of the appropriate available examinations under subsection (2) or
6 the reading credit requirement under subsection (3), the
7 superintendent of public instruction shall issue a nonrenewable
8 temporary teaching certificate, good for 1 year, to the individual.
9 The superintendent of public instruction shall not issue a Michigan
10 teaching certificate to the individual after expiration of the
11 temporary teaching certificate unless the individual has met the
12 requirements of this section.

13 ~~(14) As used in this section:~~

14 ~~(a) "Additional endorsement" means an endorsement added to a~~
15 ~~Michigan teaching certificate after initial issuance of the~~
16 ~~certificate.~~

17 ~~(b) "An individual holding a teaching certificate from another~~
18 ~~state, country, or federally recognized Indian tribe" means an~~
19 ~~individual with a valid teaching certificate or an individual who~~
20 ~~is eligible for a teaching certificate in the state or country or~~
21 ~~with the federally recognized Indian tribe in which or with which~~
22 ~~the individual is certificated or eligible for certification.~~

23 ~~(c) "Subject area examination" means an examination related to~~
24 ~~an endorsement area for the purpose of demonstrating the~~
25 ~~applicant's knowledge and understanding of the subject matter and~~
26 ~~determining whether or not an applicant is eligible for a Michigan~~
27 ~~teaching certificate or endorsement.~~

28 **(14)** ~~(15)~~The superintendent of public instruction shall
29 promulgate rules for the implementation of this section.



1 **(15)** ~~(16) Not~~ **By not** later than January 1, 2019, the
2 superintendent of public instruction, in consultation with the
3 department of labor and economic opportunity and groups or
4 individuals representing employers, economic development agencies,
5 trade unions, secondary school principals, middle and elementary
6 school principals, teachers, school district and intermediate
7 school district superintendents, and others as determined
8 appropriate by the department, shall promulgate rules to allow an
9 individual to use time spent engaging with local employers or
10 technical centers toward the renewal of a teaching certificate in
11 the same manner as state continuing education or professional
12 development.

13 **(16) As used in this section:**

14 **(a) "Additional endorsement" means an endorsement added to a**
15 **Michigan teaching certificate after initial issuance of the**
16 **certificate.**

17 **(b) "An individual holding a teaching certificate from another**
18 **state, country, or federally recognized Indian tribe" means an**
19 **individual with a valid teaching certificate or an individual who**
20 **is eligible for a teaching certificate in another state, in another**
21 **country, or with a federally recognized Indian tribe.**

22 **(c) "Subject area examination" means an examination related to**
23 **an endorsement area for the purpose of demonstrating the**
24 **applicant's knowledge and understanding of the subject matter and**
25 **determining whether an applicant is eligible for a Michigan**
26 **teaching certificate or endorsement.**

