

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
NINETY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1364

Introduced by Hartnett, 45

Read first time January 19, 2000

Committee: Education

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to schools; to amend section 79-808, Reissue
2 Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions
3 relating to teacher and administrator certificates and
4 permits; and to repeal the original section.
5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 79-808, Reissue Revised Statutes of
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3 79-808. (1) The board shall establish, adopt, and
4 promulgate appropriate rules, regulations, and procedures governing
5 the issuance, renewal, conversion, revival, cancellation,
6 suspension, and revocation of certificates and permits to teach,
7 counsel, supervise, and administer in all elementary and secondary
8 schools in this state based upon (a) earned college credit in
9 humanities, social and natural sciences, mathematics, and practical
10 arts, (b) earned college credit, or its equivalent in professional
11 education, for particular teaching, counseling, supervisory, or
12 administrative assignments, (c) scholarship attained in earning
13 such credit, (d) training in human relations, which requirement
14 shall apply to the issuance of first certificates or permits issued
15 after January 1, 1990, and to the issuance of renewal certificates
16 or permits issued after January 1, 1993, (e) successful teaching,
17 and (f) moral, mental, and physical fitness for teaching, all in
18 accordance with sound educational practices.

19 (2)(a) The board shall establish or designate basic
20 skills competency examinations for prospective teachers. The
21 examinations shall measure competency in the written use of the
22 English language, competency to read, comprehend, and interpret
23 professional writing and other written materials, and competency to
24 work with fundamental mathematical computations.

25 (b) ~~No candidate applying for an entry-level teacher or~~
26 ~~administrator certificate after July 31, 1989, shall receive a~~
27 ~~certificate unless such candidate has received a satisfactory score~~
28 ~~on the basic skills competency examinations established or~~

1 designated by the board, except that the board may issue a
2 temporary certificate to any teacher or administrator who is first
3 employed in a Nebraska school after April 1 of any year and who
4 meets all other requirements but has not taken or received a
5 satisfactory score on the examinations. The temporary certificate
6 shall be valid only for the ensuing school year and may be renewed
7 for one additional year. Each Nebraska teacher education
8 institution approved by the board shall administer the basic skills
9 competency examinations as a condition for entry into such
10 institution's teacher or administrator program. The State
11 Department of Education shall administer, at a time and place
12 designated by the commissioner, the examinations for teachers and
13 administrators being recommended for certification from outside of
14 Nebraska and for prospective teachers and administrators who have
15 not matriculated in or completed a teacher training program.

16 (e) The board may issue a temporary certificate, valid
17 for a period not to exceed two years, to any applicant for
18 certification who has not completed the human relations training
19 requirement pursuant to subdivision (1)(d) of this section or the
20 special education competencies requirement specified in section
21 79-816. No applicant for certification shall receive any manner of
22 temporary certification which exceeds two years in duration. The
23 board may also issue such temporary certification, valid for not
24 more than two years, pursuant to the Interstate Agreement on
25 Qualification of Educational Personnel found in section 79-893.

26 (d) The board may issue substitute teaching certificates
27 or permits in the absence of training in human relations required
28 pursuant to subdivision (1)(d) of this section, the basic skills

1 ~~competency examinations required pursuant to subdivision (2)(b) of~~
2 ~~this section, or the special education competencies requirement~~
3 ~~specified in section 79-816.~~

4 (3) The board may adopt and promulgate rules and
5 regulations for the issuance of certificates or permits, in the
6 absence of the training in human relations and the basic skills
7 competency examination required by this section and the special
8 education competencies required by section 79-816, to (a)
9 applicants for substitute teaching, (b) applicants with three or
10 more years of elementary or secondary school teaching experience in
11 another state pursuant to a certificate issued by that state, and
12 (c) applicants to teach, counsel, supervise, or administer in
13 schools on a limited basis not to exceed two years and which are
14 not renewable.

15 (4) Members of any advisory committee established by the
16 board to assist the board in teacher certification matters shall be
17 reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses as provided in
18 sections 81-1174 to 81-1177. Each school district which has an
19 employee who serves as a member of such committee and which is
20 required to hire a person to replace such member during the
21 member's attendance at meetings or activities of the committee or
22 any subcommittee thereof shall be reimbursed from the General Fund
23 for the expense it incurs from hiring a replacement. School
24 districts may excuse employees who serve on such advisory
25 committees from certain duties which conflict with any advisory
26 committee duties.

27 Sec. 2. Original section 79-808, Reissue Revised
28 Statutes of Nebraska, is repealed.