

1-1 By: Seliger S.B. No. 892
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 3, 2015; March 9, 2015, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education; March 30, 2015,
 1-4 reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the
 1-5 following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 1; March 30, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Taylor of Galveston	X			
1-8 Lucio	X			
1-9 Bettencourt			X	
1-10 Campbell	X			
1-11 Garcia	X			
1-12 Huffines		X		
1-13 Kolthorst	X			
1-14 Rodríguez	X			
1-15 Seliger	X			
1-16 Taylor of Collin	X			
1-17 West	X			

1-19 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 892 By: Seliger

1-20 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-21 AN ACT

1-22 relating to educator preparation programs and teacher
 1-23 certification examinations.

1-24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-25 SECTION 1. Section [21.0441](#), Education Code, is amended by
 1-26 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read
 1-27 as follows:

1-28 (a) Rules of the board proposed under this subchapter must
 1-29 provide that a person, other than a person seeking career and
 1-30 technology education certification, is not eligible for admission
 1-31 to an educator preparation program, including an alternative
 1-32 educator preparation program, unless the person:

1-33 (1) except as provided by Subsection (b), satisfies
 1-34 the following minimum grade point average requirements [~~prescribed~~
 1-35 ~~by the board, not to exceed the following~~]:

1-36 (A) an overall grade point average of at least
 1-37 2.50 [~~2.75~~] on a four-point scale or the equivalent on any course
 1-38 work previously attempted at a public or private institution of
 1-39 higher education; or

1-40 (B) a grade point average of at least 2.50 [~~2.75~~]
 1-41 on a four-point scale or the equivalent for the last 60 semester
 1-42 credit hours attempted at a public or private institution of higher
 1-43 education; and

1-44 (2) if the person is seeking initial certification:

1-45 (A) has successfully completed at least:

1-46 (i) 15 semester credit hours in the
 1-47 subject-specific content area in which the person is seeking
 1-48 certification, if the person is seeking certification to teach
 1-49 mathematics or science at or above grade level seven; or

1-50 (ii) 12 semester credit hours in the
 1-51 subject-specific content area in which the person is seeking
 1-52 certification, if the person is not seeking certification to teach
 1-53 mathematics or science at or above grade level seven; or

1-54 (B) has achieved a satisfactory level of
 1-55 performance on a content certification examination, which may be a
 1-56 content certification examination administered by a vendor
 1-57 approved by the commissioner for purposes of administering such an
 1-58 examination for the year for which the person is applying for
 1-59 admission to the program.

1-60 (c) The overall grade point average of each incoming class

2-1 admitted by an educator preparation program, including an
 2-2 alternative educator preparation program, may not be less than 3.00
 2-3 on a four-point scale or the equivalent or a higher overall grade
 2-4 point average prescribed by the board. In computing the overall
 2-5 grade point average of an incoming class for purposes of this
 2-6 subsection, a program may:

2-7 (1) include the grade point average of each person in
 2-8 the incoming class based on all course work previously attempted by
 2-9 the person at a public or private institution of higher education;
 2-10 or

2-11 (2) include the grade point average of each person in
 2-12 the incoming class based only on the last 60 semester credit hours
 2-13 attempted by the person at a public or private institution of higher
 2-14 education.

2-15 (d) A person seeking career and technology education
 2-16 certification is not included in determining the overall grade
 2-17 point average of an incoming class under Subsection (c).

2-18 SECTION 2. Section 21.045(b), Education Code, is amended to
 2-19 read as follows:

2-20 (b) Each educator preparation program shall submit data
 2-21 elements as required by the board for an annual performance report
 2-22 to ensure access and equity. At a minimum, the annual report must
 2-23 contain:

2-24 (1) the performance data from Subsection (a), other
 2-25 than the data required for purposes of Subsection (a)(3), and the
 2-26 following information, disaggregated by sex and ethnicity:

- 2-27 (A) [~~(1)~~] the number of candidates who apply;
- 2-28 (B) [~~(2)~~] the number of candidates admitted;
- 2-29 (C) [~~(3)~~] the number of candidates retained;
- 2-30 (D) [~~(4)~~] the number of candidates completing

2-31 the program;

2-32 (E) [~~(5)~~] the number of candidates employed as
 2-33 beginning teachers under standard teaching certificates by not
 2-34 later than the first anniversary of [~~in the profession after~~]
 2-35 completing the program;

2-36 (F) the amount of time required by candidates
 2-37 employed as beginning teachers under probationary teaching
 2-38 certificates to be issued standard teaching certificates;

2-39 (G) [~~(6)~~] the number of candidates retained in
 2-40 the profession; and

2-41 (H) [~~(7)~~] any other information required by
 2-42 federal law;

2-43 (2) the ratio of field supervisors to candidates
 2-44 completing student teaching, clinical teaching, or an internship;
 2-45 and

2-46 (3) any other information necessary to enable the
 2-47 board to assess the effectiveness of the program on the basis of
 2-48 teacher retention and success criteria adopted by the board.

2-49 SECTION 3. Section 21.048, Education Code, is amended by
 2-50 amending Subsections (a-1) and (c-1) and adding Subsection (a-2) to
 2-51 read as follows:

2-52 (a-1) The board may not require that more than 45 days
 2-53 elapse before a person may retake an examination. A person may not
 2-54 retake an examination more than four times, unless the board waives
 2-55 the limitation for good cause as prescribed by the board.

2-56 (a-2) For purposes of the limitation imposed by Subsection
 2-57 (a-1) on the number of administrations of an examination, a person
 2-58 who initially took an examination before September 1, 2015, may
 2-59 retake the examination up to four times after that date, regardless
 2-60 of the number of times that the person attempted to perform
 2-61 satisfactorily on the examination before that date. This
 2-62 subsection expires September 1, 2018.

2-63 (c-1) The results of an examination administered under this
 2-64 section are confidential and are not subject to disclosure under
 2-65 Chapter 552, Government Code, unless[+]

2-66 [~~(1)~~] the disclosure is regarding notification to a
 2-67 parent of the assignment of an uncertified teacher to a classroom as
 2-68 required by Section 21.057[+, or

2-69 [~~(2)~~] the educator has failed the examination more than

3-1 ~~five times~~].

3-2 SECTION 4. Effective September 1, 2016, Section 21.051,
3-3 Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding
3-4 Subsections (b-1), (b-2), and (c-1) to read as follows:

3-5 (b) Before a school district may employ a candidate for
3-6 certification as a teacher of record, the candidate must complete
3-7 at least 30 [~~15~~] hours of field-based experience in which the
3-8 candidate is actively engaged in instructional or educational
3-9 activities in the classroom under supervision at:

3-10 (1) a public school campus accredited or approved for
3-11 the purpose by the agency; or

3-12 (2) a private school recognized or approved for the
3-13 purpose by the agency.

3-14 (b-1) The hours of field-based experience required by
3-15 Subsection (b) may not be provided through use of electronic
3-16 transmission or other video- or technology-based method.

3-17 (b-2) Notwithstanding Subsection (b), a candidate may be
3-18 employed by a school district as a teacher of record before
3-19 completing the field-based experience required by that subsection
3-20 if the candidate:

3-21 (1) is not admitted by an educator preparation program
3-22 before June 15;

3-23 (2) is employed by the district on or after June 15 or
3-24 after the district's school year begins; and

3-25 (3) completes the required field-based experience not
3-26 later than the 90th day after the date the candidate receives a
3-27 teaching assignment.

3-28 (c-1) Subsections (b), (b-1), and (b-2), as amended and
3-29 added by S.B. 892, Acts of the 84th Legislature, Regular Session,
3-30 2015, apply only to an initial certification issued on or after
3-31 September 1, 2016. Those provisions do not affect:

3-32 (1) the validity of a certification issued before
3-33 September 1, 2016; or

3-34 (2) the eligibility of a person who holds a
3-35 certification issued before September 1, 2016, to obtain a
3-36 subsequent renewal of the certification in accordance with board
3-37 rule.

3-38 SECTION 5. Not later than January 1, 2016, the State Board
3-39 for Educator Certification shall develop criteria for evaluation of
3-40 educator preparation programs based on teacher retention and
3-41 success as required by Section 21.045(b)(3), Education Code, as
3-42 added by this Act. The State Board for Educator Certification shall
3-43 consult with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in
3-44 developing the criteria, and the Texas Higher Education
3-45 Coordinating Board shall participate and provide recommendations
3-46 regarding the criteria.

3-47 SECTION 6. Except as otherwise provided by this Act, this
3-48 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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