

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005

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SENATE BILL 181

Short Title: Reciprocity for Teachers From Other States. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Tillman; Allran, Apodaca, Atwater, Berger of Franklin, Bingham, Blake, Brock, Brown, Clodfelter, Dorsett, East, Forrester, Garwood, Goodall, Hartsell, Hunt, Jacumin, Pittenger, Presnell, Purcell, Smith, Soles, Stevens, and Thomas.

Referred to: Education/Higher Education.

February 23, 2005

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE CERTIFICATION IN NORTH CAROLINA OF
OUT-OF-STATE TEACHERS WHO ARE FULLY CERTIFIED AND HIGHLY
QUALIFIED IN ANOTHER STATE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. The General Assembly finds that there is a shortage of certified teachers for the North Carolina public schools; therefore, G.S. 115C-296.3 is reenacted and reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-296.3. Certification of highly qualified teachers from other states.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a teacher from another state shall be granted North Carolina certification under the following conditions:

- (1) New hires to the profession from other states. – A teacher from another state who (i) has less than three years of experience as a full-time classroom teacher, (ii) is fully certified and highly qualified, as provided in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. § 6301, et seq., in that other state; and (iii) is employed as a teacher by a local school administrative unit in North Carolina, is deemed to have satisfied the academic and professional preparation required to receive initial certification in North ~~Carolina~~. Carolina, except as otherwise provided in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. The initial certification shall be granted for one year or for the period of time necessary for the teacher to acquire three years of full-time teaching experience in North Carolina and the other state combined, whichever is longer.

Once the teacher has three years of experience as a full-time teacher with at least one full year in a local school administrative unit

1 in North Carolina, the teacher shall receive continuing certification
2 unless the employing local school administrative unit recommends that
3 the teacher not be granted continuing certification. The teacher shall be
4 subject to the same requirements for continuing certification and
5 certificate renewal as other teachers in North Carolina.

6 The teacher shall not be required to take and pass a standard
7 examination to demonstrate adequate academic and professional
8 preparation for certification, except as otherwise provided by the No
9 Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

- 10 (2) New hires with at least three years of experience from other states. – A
11 teacher from another state who (i) has three or more years of
12 experience as a full-time teacher, (ii) is fully certified and highly
13 qualified as provided in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 in that
14 other state, and (iii) is employed as a teacher by a local school
15 administrative unit in North Carolina is deemed to have satisfied the
16 academic and professional preparation required to receive continuing
17 certification for one year in North ~~Carolina.~~ Carolina, except as
18 otherwise provided in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

19 If at the end of one year of employment, the employing local board
20 of education recommends to the State Board of Education that the
21 teacher's certification be renewed, the teacher shall be eligible to
22 receive continuing certification. The teacher shall be subject to the
23 same requirements for continuing certification and certificate renewal
24 as other teachers in North Carolina.

25 The teacher shall not be required to take and pass a standard
26 examination to demonstrate that preparation, except as otherwise
27 provided by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001."

28 **SECTION 2.** The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee shall
29 study the shortage of certified teachers for the North Carolina public schools. The
30 Committee shall report to the 2007 General Assembly on the continuing need to
31 expedite the certification of out-of-State teachers in accordance with G.S. 115C-296.3,
32 as reenacted and rewritten in Section 1 of this act due to the teacher shortage.

33 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to all
34 persons initially employed as teachers by a local school administrative unit in North
35 Carolina for the 2005-2006 school year or the 2006-2007 school year. This act expires
36 June 30, 2007.