

CHAPTER 245

EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HOUSE BILL 21-1104

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Larson and McLachlan, Amabile, Bacon, Bennett, Caraveo, Carver, Duran, Exum, Froelich, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Herod, Hooton, Kennedy, Kipp, Lontine, McCluskie, Michaelson Jenet, Mullica, Sullivan, Titone, Valdez D., Weissman, Young, Garnett;
also SENATOR(S) Lundeen and Zenzinger, Bridges, Buckner, Cooke, Coram, Fenberg, Gardner, Ginal, Holbert, Kirkmeyer, Kolker, Lee, Liston, Moreno, Priola, Simpson, Sonnenberg, Story.

AN ACT

CONCERNING EXTENDING THE RENEWAL PERIOD FOR PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR LICENSES FROM FIVE TO SEVEN YEARS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AND REDUCING AN APPROPRIATION.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. (1) The general assembly finds and declares that:

(a) Well-educated teachers, principals, and school administrators are key components in the academic success of children;

(b) Professional development and license renewal is crucial for all of these types of educators; and

(c) Every teacher, principal, and school administrator has different professional development needs and interests based on their areas of expertise as well as the demographics of the school at which they work.

(2) Therefore, it is the intent of the general assembly to allow teachers, principals, and school administrators more time to accrue the required professional development hours as each individual educator feels is best suited to the educator's needs. It is not the intent of the general assembly to add, through this legislation, any additional required directed professional development hours for licensure renewal.

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-201, **amend** (1)(c)(III)(A) as follows:

22-60.5-201. Types of teacher licenses issued - term - rules. (1) The department is designated as the sole agency authorized to issue the following teacher licenses to persons of good moral character:

(c) **Professional teacher license.** (III) (A) Except as otherwise provided in ~~sub-subparagraph (B) of this subparagraph (III)~~ SUBSECTION (1)(c)(III)(B) OF THIS SECTION, any professional teacher license issued pursuant to this ~~paragraph (c)~~ **shall be** SUBSECTION (1)(c)(III)(A) IS valid for a period of ~~five~~ SEVEN years after the date of issuance and is renewable at its expiration ~~as provided in~~ PURSUANT TO section 22-60.5-110. IF, AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (1)(c)(III)(A), AS AMENDED, AN INDIVIDUAL HAS PARTIALLY COMPLETED THE INDIVIDUAL'S FIVE-YEAR PROFESSIONAL TEACHER LICENSING PERIOD, THE LICENSING PERIOD FOR THAT INDIVIDUAL IS EXTENDED TO A SEVEN-YEAR PERIOD. THE YEARS THAT THE INDIVIDUAL ALREADY COMPLETED TOWARD THE FIVE-YEAR PROFESSIONAL TEACHER LICENSING PERIOD WILL COUNT TOWARD THE INDIVIDUAL'S NEW SEVEN-YEAR PROFESSIONAL TEACHER LICENSING PERIOD.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-210, **amend** (1)(b)(II)(A) as follows:

22-60.5-210. Types of special services licenses issued - term. (1) The department of education is designated as the sole agency authorized to issue the following types of special services licenses to persons of good moral character:

(b) **Professional special services license.** (II) (A) Except as otherwise provided in ~~sub-subparagraph (B) of this subparagraph (II)~~ SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II)(B) OF THIS SECTION, any professional special services license issued pursuant to this ~~paragraph (b)~~ **shall be** SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II)(A) IS valid for a period of ~~five~~ SEVEN years after the date of issuance and is renewable ~~as provided in~~ PURSUANT TO section 22-60.5-110. IF, AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II)(A), AS AMENDED, AN INDIVIDUAL HAS PARTIALLY COMPLETED THE INDIVIDUAL'S FIVE-YEAR PROFESSIONAL SPECIAL SERVICES LICENSING PERIOD, THE LICENSING PERIOD FOR THAT INDIVIDUAL IS EXTENDED TO A SEVEN-YEAR PERIOD. THE YEARS THAT THE INDIVIDUAL ALREADY COMPLETED TOWARD THE FIVE-YEAR PROFESSIONAL SPECIAL SERVICES LICENSING PERIOD WILL COUNT TOWARD THE INDIVIDUAL'S NEW SEVEN-YEAR PROFESSIONAL SPECIAL SERVICES LICENSING PERIOD.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-301, **amend** (1)(b)(II)(A) as follows:

22-60.5-301. Types of principal licenses issued - term. (1) The department of education is designated as the sole agency authorized to issue the following principal licenses to persons of good moral character:

(b) **Professional principal license.** (II) (A) Except as otherwise provided in ~~sub-subparagraph (B) of this subparagraph (II)~~ SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II)(B) OF THIS SECTION, any professional principal license issued pursuant to this ~~paragraph (b)~~ **shall be** SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II)(A) IS valid for a period of ~~five~~ SEVEN years after the

date of issuance and is renewable ~~as provided in~~ PURSUANT TO section 22-60.5-110. IF, AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II)(A), AS AMENDED, AN INDIVIDUAL HAS PARTIALLY COMPLETED THE INDIVIDUAL'S FIVE-YEAR PROFESSIONAL PRINCIPAL LICENSING PERIOD, THE LICENSING PERIOD FOR THAT INDIVIDUAL IS EXTENDED TO A SEVEN-YEAR PERIOD. THE YEARS THAT THE INDIVIDUAL ALREADY COMPLETED TOWARD THE FIVE-YEAR PROFESSIONAL PRINCIPAL LICENSING PERIOD WILL COUNT TOWARD THE INDIVIDUAL'S NEW SEVEN-YEAR PROFESSIONAL PRINCIPAL LICENSING PERIOD.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-306, **amend** (1)(b)(II)(A) as follows:

22-60.5-306. Types of administrator licenses issued - term. (1) The department of education is designated as the sole agency authorized to issue the following types of administrator licenses to persons of good moral character:

(b) **Professional administrator license.** (II) (A) Except as otherwise provided in ~~sub-subparagraph (B) of this subparagraph (II)~~ SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II)(B) OF THIS SECTION, any professional administrator license issued pursuant to this ~~paragraph (b) shall be~~ SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II)(A) IS valid for a period of ~~five~~ SEVEN years after the date of issuance and is renewable ~~as provided in~~ PURSUANT TO section 22-60.5-110. IF, AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (1)(b)(II)(A), AS AMENDED, AN INDIVIDUAL HAS PARTIALLY COMPLETED THE INDIVIDUAL'S FIVE-YEAR PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATOR LICENSING PERIOD, THE LICENSING PERIOD FOR THAT INDIVIDUAL IS EXTENDED TO A SEVEN-YEAR PERIOD. THE YEARS THAT THE INDIVIDUAL ALREADY COMPLETED TOWARD THE FIVE-YEAR PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATOR LICENSING PERIOD WILL COUNT TOWARD THE INDIVIDUAL'S NEW SEVEN-YEAR PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATOR LICENSING PERIOD.

SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-112, **amend** (1)(a) as follows:

22-60.5-112. Fees - fund - repeal. (1) (a) The fee for the examination and review of an application for any license, endorsement, or authorization, or any renewal or reinstatement, ~~thereof,~~ shall be established by the state board of education and ~~shall be~~ IS nonrefundable. Upon determination of eligibility, such license, endorsement, or authorization ~~shall~~ MUST be issued without an additional fee. The state board of education shall adjust, if necessary, all such fees annually so that they generate an amount of revenue that approximates the direct and indirect costs of the state board of education and of the department for the administration of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 60.5; however, the state board of education shall establish and adjust such fees for licenses issued pursuant to section 22-60.5-201 (1)(a) so that the fees generate an amount of revenue that approximates the direct and indirect costs of the state board of education and the department for the administration of sections 22-60.5-201 (1)(a) and 22-60.5-205. All fees collected ~~under~~ PURSUANT TO this section ~~shall~~ MUST be transmitted to the state treasurer and credited to the educator licensure cash fund, which fund is hereby created and referred to in this subsection (1) as the "cash fund". THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY DESIGNATE GENERAL FUND MONEY TO THE EDUCATOR LICENSURE CASH FUND TO SUPPLEMENT EDUCATOR FEES. The general assembly shall make annual appropriations from the GENERAL FUND OR cash fund for expenditures of the state board of education and of the department

incurred in the administration of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 60.5. At the end of any fiscal year, all unexpended and unencumbered moneys in the cash fund ~~shall remain therein and shall~~ IN THE CASH FUND AND MUST not be credited or transferred to the general fund or any other fund.

SECTION 7. Appropriation - adjustments to 2021 long bill. (1) To implement this act, the cash funds appropriation from the educator licensure cash fund created in section 22-60.5-112 (1)(a), C.R.S., made in the annual general appropriation act for the 2021-22 state fiscal year to the department of education for the office of professional services is decreased by \$292,532, and the related FTE is decreased by 4.0 FTE.

(2) For the 2021-22 state fiscal year, \$2,922,976 is appropriated to the department of education. This appropriation is from the general fund. To implement this act, the department may use this appropriation for the office of professional services. Any money appropriated in this section not expended prior to July 1, 2022, is further appropriated to the department for the 2022-23 state fiscal year for the same purpose.

SECTION 8. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

Approved: June 16, 2021