

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 6, 2002

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 1, 2002

SENATE BILL

No. 1646

Introduced by Senator Alpert
(Coauthor: Senator Vasconcellos)

February 21, 2002

An act to amend Section 44259 of, and to add Section 44259.4 to, the Education Code, relating to teachers.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1646, as amended, Alpert. Teacher credentialing.

Existing law authorizes the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to issue a preliminary multiple or single subject teaching credential, as provided. Existing law sets forth the minimum requirements for the preliminary multiple or single subject teaching credential. Among those requirements is a baccalaureate degree or higher degree from a regionally accredited postsecondary institution, however, with a specified exception, the baccalaureate degree cannot be in professional education.

This bill would provide for another exception to allow a baccalaureate degree in elementary education.

The bill would require regionally accredited public postsecondary institutions to establish undergraduate degrees in elementary education. The bill would require the degree programs to enable candidates for multiple subject teaching credentials to engage in professional preparation concurrent with subject matter preparation and to provide candidates with opportunities to complete intensive field experiences in public elementary schools early in the undergraduate sequence. The

bill would require the postsecondary institutions' schools, departments, or divisions of education to be responsible for the development and implementation of the degree programs, as provided. The bill would require the degree programs to meet specified requirements and ~~provides~~ *would provide* that completion of the degree program requirements shall result in a preliminary credential. The bill would require the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to encourage *University of California campuses and* accredited private postsecondary institutions to offer undergraduate degrees in elementary education.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) The demand for teachers in California's elementary and
- 4 secondary schools over the next 10 years is projected at
- 5 approximately 25,000 new teachers per year.
- 6 (b) Between July 1, 1998, and June 30 1999, 19,451 teachers
- 7 received credentials in California colleges and universities.
- 8 Approximately 5,549 more new teachers are needed. The number
- 9 of first-time credentials issued during this time period was 4,262.
- 10 The balance of credentials issued, 15,189, were issued to
- 11 individuals who already were employed as teachers.
- 12 (c) Teacher preparation programs currently in place are
- 13 insufficient to fill the needs of California's elementary and
- 14 secondary schools, and California's public schools, of necessity,
- 15 do all of the following:
- 16 (1) Recruit teachers trained in other states.
- 17 (2) Hire noncredentialed individuals who are enrolled or
- 18 placed in an intern or a preintern program.
- 19 (3) Hire individuals with emergency teaching permits or
- 20 credentials.
- 21 (d) In 1999, the Commission on Teacher Credentialing granted
- 22 more than 35,000 emergency permits.
- 23 (e) Research shows that the largest group of emergency permit
- 24 holders are employed in the lowest performing schools and that
- 25 these teachers have the lowest chance of long-term success.



1 ~~(f) To begin meeting the demand for new teachers, California~~
2 ~~must provide teacher preparation programs that prepare teaching~~
3 ~~candidates in subject matter, field experience, and pedagogy,~~
4 ~~completed as a part of an undergraduate minor.~~

5 ~~(g)~~
6 *(f) Evidence from cognitive science, developmental*
7 *psychology, and neuroscience indicate that children best meet*
8 *their full learning and human growth potential if placed in an*
9 *environment where they are nurtured and supported. This*
10 *scientific research has determined how the brain develops and has*
11 *linked these findings to the unique and diverse learning styles for*
12 *developing the innate learning capacities in all humans.*
13 *California must incorporate this research into the training of our*
14 *new teachers so they have a full understanding of how children*
15 *learn.*

16 *(g) To begin meeting the demand for new teachers, California*
17 *must provide teacher preparation programs that prepare teaching*
18 *candidates in subject matter, field experience, pedagogy, the*
19 *knowledge of diverse learning styles and the awareness of the*
20 *environments that are most conducive to inspire and nurture the*
21 *full potential for student learning, all completed as a part of an*
22 *undergraduate major.*

23 *(h) It is the intent of the Legislature that all of the state's*
24 *colleges and universities offer undergraduate teacher preparation*
25 *programs as majors beginning in the fall of 2003.*

26 SEC. 2. Section 44259 of the Education Code is amended to
27 read:

28 44259. (a) Except as provided in subparagraphs (A) and (C)
29 of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b), each program of professional
30 preparation for multiple or single subject teaching credentials shall
31 not include more than one year of, or the equivalent of one-fifth
32 of a five-year program in, professional preparation.

33 (b) The minimum requirements for the preliminary multiple or
34 single subject teaching credential are all of the following:

35 (1) A baccalaureate degree or higher degree from a regionally
36 accredited institution of postsecondary education. Except as
37 provided in Section 44259.4 or any other provision of this code
38 that specifically provides otherwise, the baccalaureate degree shall
39 not be in professional education. The commission shall encourage



1 accredited institutions to offer undergraduate minors in education
2 and special education to students who intend to become teachers.

3 (2) Passage of the state basic skills examination that is
4 developed and administered by the commission pursuant to
5 Section 44252.5.

6 (3) Satisfactory completion of a program of professional
7 preparation that has been accredited by the committee on
8 accreditation on the basis of standards of program quality and
9 effectiveness that have been adopted by the commission. Subject
10 to the availability of funds in the annual Budget Act for this
11 purpose, and in accordance with the commission's assessment and
12 performance standards, each program shall include a teaching
13 performance assessment as set forth in Section 44320.2 which is
14 aligned with the California Standards for the Teaching Profession.
15 The commission shall ensure that each candidate recommended
16 for a credential or certificate has demonstrated satisfactory ability
17 to assist pupils to meet or exceed state content and performance
18 standards for pupils adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section
19 60605. Programs that meet this requirement for professional
20 preparation shall include any of the following:

21 (A) Integrated programs of subject matter preparation and
22 professional preparation pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section
23 44259.1.

24 (B) Postbaccalaureate programs of professional preparation,
25 pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 44259.1.

26 (C) Internship programs of professional preparation, pursuant
27 to Section 44321, Article 7.5 (commencing with Section 44325),
28 Article 11 (commencing with Section 44380), and Article 3
29 (commencing with Section 44450) of Chapter 3.

30 (4) Study of alternative methods of developing English
31 language skills, including the study of reading as described in
32 subparagraphs (A) and (B), among all pupils, including those for
33 whom English is a second language, in accordance with the
34 commission's standards of program quality and effectiveness. The
35 study of reading shall meet the following requirements:

36 (A) Commencing January 1, 1997, satisfactory completion of
37 comprehensive reading instruction that is research-based and
38 includes all of the following:



1 (i) The study of organized, systematic, explicit skills including
2 phonemic awareness, direct, systematic, explicit phonics, and
3 decoding skills.

4 (ii) A strong literature, language, and comprehension
5 component with a balance of oral and written language.

6 (iii) Ongoing diagnostic techniques that inform teaching and
7 assessment.

8 (iv) Early intervention techniques.

9 (v) Guided practice in a clinical setting.

10 (B) For the purposes of this section, “direct, systematic,
11 explicit phonics” means phonemic awareness, spelling patterns,
12 the direct instruction of sound/symbol codes and practice in
13 connected text and the relationship of direct, systematic, explicit
14 phonics to the components set forth in clauses (i) to (v), inclusive.

15 A program for the multiple subjects credential also shall include
16 the study of integrated methods of teaching language arts.

17 (5) Completion of a subject matter program that has been
18 approved by the commission on the basis of standards of program
19 quality and effectiveness pursuant to Article 6 (commencing with
20 Section 44310) or passage of a subject matter examination
21 pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 44280). The
22 commission shall ensure that subject matter standards and
23 examinations are aligned with the state content and performance
24 standards for pupils adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section
25 60605.

26 (6) Demonstration of a knowledge of the principles and
27 provisions of the Constitution of the United States pursuant to
28 Section 44335.

29 (7) Commencing January 1, 2000, demonstration, in
30 accordance with the commission’s standards of program quality
31 and effectiveness, of basic competency in the use of computers in
32 the classroom as determined by one of the following:

33 (A) Successful completion of a commission-approved
34 program or course.

35 (B) Successful passage of an assessment that is developed,
36 approved, and administered by the commission.

37 (c) The minimum requirements for the professional clear
38 multiple or single subject teaching credential shall include all of
39 the following requirements:



1 (1) Possession of a valid preliminary teaching credential, as
2 prescribed in subdivision (b), possession of a valid equivalent
3 credential or certificate, or completion of equivalent requirements
4 as determined by the commission. A candidate who has satisfied
5 the requirements of subdivision (b) for a preliminary credential,
6 including completion of an accredited internship program of
7 professional preparation, shall be determined by the commission
8 to have fulfilled the requirements of paragraph (2) for beginning
9 teacher induction if the accredited internship program has fulfilled
10 induction standards and been approved as set forth in this
11 subdivision.

12 (2) Subject to the availability of funds in the annual Budget Act
13 to provide statewide access to eligible beginning teachers, as
14 defined in subdivision (d) of Section 44279.1, completion of a
15 program of beginning teacher induction, including any of the
16 following:

17 (A) A program of beginning teacher support and assessment
18 approved by the commission and the Superintendent of Public
19 Instruction pursuant to Section 44279.1, a provision of the Marian
20 Bergeson Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment System.

21 (B) An alternative program of beginning teacher induction that
22 is provided by one or more local education agencies and has been
23 approved by the commission and the superintendent on the basis
24 of initial review and periodic evaluations of the program in
25 relation to appropriate standards of credential program quality and
26 effectiveness that have been adopted by the commission, the
27 superintendent, and the State Board of Education pursuant to this
28 subdivision. The standards for alternative programs shall
29 encourage innovation and experimentation in the continuous
30 preparation and induction of beginning teachers. Any alternative
31 program of beginning teacher induction that has met state
32 standards pursuant to this subdivision may apply for state funding
33 pursuant to Sections 44279.1 and 44279.2.

34 (C) An alternative program of beginning teacher induction that
35 is sponsored by a regionally accredited college or university, in
36 cooperation with one or more local school districts, that addresses
37 the individual professional needs of beginning teachers and meets
38 the commission's standards of induction. The commission shall
39 ensure that preparation and induction programs that qualify
40 candidates for professional credentials extend and refine each



1 beginning teacher's professional skills in relation to the California
2 Standards for the Teaching Profession and the standards of pupil
3 performance adopted pursuant to Section 60605.

4 (3) Preparation, in accordance with commission standards, that
5 addresses the following:

6 (A) Study of health education, including study of nutrition,
7 cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the physiological and
8 sociological effects of abuse of alcohol, narcotics, and drugs and
9 the use of tobacco. Training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation shall
10 also meet the standards established by the American Heart
11 Association or the American Red Cross.

12 (B) Study and field experience in methods of delivering
13 appropriate educational services to pupils with exceptional needs
14 in regular education programs.

15 (C) Study, in accordance with the commission's standards of
16 program quality and effectiveness, of advanced computer-based
17 technology, including the uses of technology in educational
18 settings.

19 (4) The commission shall develop and implement standards of
20 program quality that provide for the areas of study listed in
21 subparagraphs (A) to (C), inclusive of paragraph (3), starting in
22 professional preparation and continuing through induction.

23 (5) Completion of an approved fifth-year program after
24 completion of a baccalaureate degree at a regionally accredited
25 institution, except that the commission shall eliminate this
26 requirement for any candidate who has completed an induction
27 program that has been approved for the professional clear
28 credential pursuant to paragraph (2).

29 (d) A credential that was issued prior to the effective date of this
30 section shall remain in force as long as it is valid under the laws
31 and regulations that were in effect on the date it was issued. The
32 commission may not, by regulation, invalidate an otherwise valid
33 credential unless it issues to the holder of the credential, in
34 substitution, a new credential authorized by another provision in
35 this chapter that is no more restrictive than the credential for which
36 it was substituted with respect to the kind of service authorized and
37 the grades, classes, or types of schools in which it authorizes
38 service.

39 (e) A credential program that is approved by the commission
40 may not deny an individual access to that program solely on the



1 grounds that the individual obtained a teaching credential through
2 completion of an internship program when that internship
3 program has been accredited by the commission.

4 (f) Notwithstanding this section, persons who were performing
5 teaching services as of January 1, 1999, pursuant to the language
6 of this section that was in effect prior to that date, may continue to
7 perform those services without complying with any requirements
8 that may be added by the amendments adding this subdivision.

9 (g) Subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (4) of subdivision
10 (b) do not apply to any person who, as of January 1, 1997, holds
11 a multiple or single subject teaching credential, or to any person
12 enrolled in a program of professional preparation for a multiple or
13 single subject teaching credential as of January 1, 1997, who
14 subsequently completes that program. It is the intent of the
15 Legislature that the requirements of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of
16 paragraph (4) of subdivision (b) be applied only to persons who
17 enter a program of professional preparation on or after January 1,
18 1997.

19 (h) The commission shall grant teaching credentials based on
20 the requirements for those credentials that were in effect on
21 December 31, 1998, to candidates who were in the process of
22 meeting those requirements for teaching credentials before the
23 effective date of the commission's implementation of this section.

24 SEC. 3. Section 44259.4 is added to the Education Code, to
25 read:

26 44259.4. (a) All regionally accredited public postsecondary
27 institutions shall establish a baccalaureate degree in elementary
28 education. The degree program shall enable candidates for
29 multiple subject teaching credentials to engage in professional
30 preparation concurrent with subject matter preparation. The
31 degree program shall provide opportunities for candidates to
32 complete intensive field experiences in public elementary schools
33 early in the undergraduate sequence. The development and
34 implementation of these degree programs shall be the
35 responsibility of each postsecondary institution's school,
36 *department, or division* of education based on collaboration
37 among subject matter departments within the postsecondary
38 institution and local public elementary and unified school districts.
39 In approving these degree programs, the commission shall not
40 compromise or reduce its standards of subject matter preparation



1 pursuant to Article 6 (commencing with Section 44310) or its
2 standards of professional preparation pursuant to paragraph (3) of
3 subdivision (b) of Section 44259. Completion of the requirements
4 of this degree program shall result in a preliminary credential.

5 (b) Each baccalaureate degree program in elementary
6 education shall meet ~~both~~ all of the following requirements:

7 (1) Each candidate shall have two areas of emphasis that are a
8 part of the adopted course of study commonly taught in grades 1
9 to 6, inclusive, consistent with those established in Section 51210,
10 *and that are grounded in two core academic areas including*
11 *English, mathematics, history/social science, or science.* These
12 areas of emphasis shall be listed on each candidate's diploma.

13 (2) *The degree program shall include at least one specific*
14 *course, in addition to what may already be required for child*
15 *development, that addresses brain development, from birth to*
16 *adult, and how the brain acquires knowledge.*

17 (3) The degree program shall be based on and incorporate the
18 California academic content standards and the state curriculum
19 frameworks adopted by the State Board of Education.

20 (c) The commission shall encourage *all University of*
21 *California campuses as well as* accredited private postsecondary
22 institutions to offer baccalaureate degrees in elementary
23 education.

