

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 22.1-298 of the Code of Virginia, relating to teachers of the blind and*
3 *visually impaired.*

4 [S 1307]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 22.1-298 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 § 22.1-298. Regulations governing licensure.

9 A. The Board of Education shall, by regulation, prescribe the requirements for licensure of teachers.
10 Regardless of the authority of any other agency of the Commonwealth to approve educational programs,
11 only the Board of Education shall have the authority to license teachers to be regularly employed by
12 school boards, including those teachers employed to provide nursing education.

13 B. Such regulations shall include a requirement that:

14 1. Every teacher seeking initial licensure take a professional teacher's examination prescribed by the
15 Board;

16 2. Persons seeking licensure on and after July 1, 2000, complete study in attention deficit disorder
17 and gifted education, including the use of multiple criteria to identify gifted students;

18 3. Persons seeking initial licensure on and after July 1, 2002, ~~to have completed~~ *complete* study in,
19 among other things, (i) methods of improving communication between schools and families; (ii) ways of
20 increasing family involvement in student learning at home and in school; and (iii) the Standards of
21 Learning.

22 4. ~~A requirement that, on and after July 1, 2000,~~ Persons seeking licensure with endorsements as
23 teachers of the blind and visually impaired *on and after July 1, 2000*, demonstrate ~~minimum~~ proficiency
24 *in reading and writing Braille; and*.

25 C. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Board may provide for the issuance of a
26 provisional license, valid for a period not to exceed three years, to any person who does not meet the
27 requirements of this section or any other requirement for licensure imposed by law.

28 D. The Board's licensure regulations shall also require that licensure for superintendents and
29 principals, on and after July 1, 2000, be contingent upon acquiring the skills established in the Board's
30 leadership standards.

31 E. Persons seeking initial licensure who graduate from Virginia institutions of higher education shall,
32 on and after July 1, 2002, only be licensed as instructional personnel by the Board of Education if the
33 endorsement areas offered at such institutions have been assessed by a national accrediting agency or by
34 a state approval process, with final accreditation by the Board of Education.

ENROLLED

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