



# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

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Legislative Document

No. 50

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H.P. 36

House of Representatives, January 10, 2017

### An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Teacher Certification

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Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield.  
Cosponsored by Senator DOW of Lincoln and  
Representatives: GERRISH of Lebanon, HERRICK of Paris, LOCKMAN of Amherst,  
STEARNS of Guilford, STROM of Pittsfield, VACHON of Scarborough, WARD of Dedham,  
Senator: WHITTEMORE of Somerset.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13011, sub-§6**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2011, c.  
3 635, Pt. B, §2, is amended to read:

4 **6. Alternative pathways to certification.** The state board shall develop and adopt  
5 rules providing a method for a person who has not completed an approved educator  
6 preparation program as defined under section 13008 to obtain provisional ~~educator~~  
7 teacher certification through an alternative pathway that meets the requirements in section  
8 13012, subsection 7 or that:

9 A. Is designed for candidates who can demonstrate subject matter competency that is  
10 directly related to the certificate endorsement being sought and obtained through  
11 prior academic achievement or work experience;

12 B. May feature an accelerated program of preparation;

13 C. Uses mentorship programs that partner teacher candidates with mentor teachers;  
14 and

15 D. Includes accountability provisions to ensure that teacher candidates demonstrate  
16 the knowledge and skills established pursuant to section 13012, subsection 2-B prior  
17 to issuance of a provisional teacher certificate.

18 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §13012, sub-§7** is enacted to read:

19 **7. Alternate pathway to provisional teacher certificate.** Notwithstanding  
20 subsections 2-A, 2-B and 5 and sections 13032 and 13035-A, a person who has not  
21 completed an approved educator preparation program as defined under section 13008 is  
22 eligible for a provisional teacher certificate if that person:

23 A. Has attained certification from a nonprofit organization described in 26 United  
24 States Code, Section 501(c)(3) that:

25 (1) Was founded with grant funding from the United States Department of  
26 Education;

27 (2) Developed a certification program designed for professionals who want to  
28 change careers and become teachers; and

29 (3) Requires an applicant to possess a bachelor's degree; and

30 B. Has satisfactorily completed a criminal history record check in accordance with  
31 section 13011, subsection 8.

32 **SUMMARY**

33 This bill provides that a person who has not completed an approved educator  
34 preparation program is eligible for a provisional teacher certificate if that person has  
35 satisfactorily completed a criminal history record check and attained certification from a  
36 nonprofit organization that was founded with United States Department of Education

1 funding and that developed a certification program designed for professionals who want  
2 to change careers.