

SENATE BILL No. 661

December 17, 1991, Introduced by Senator N. SMITH and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to amend section 1531 of Act No. 451 of the Public Acts of 1976, entitled as amended
"The school code of 1976,"
as amended by Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1986, being section 380.1531 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Section 1. Section 1531 of Act No. 451 of the Public Acts
2 of 1976, as amended by Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1986,
3 being section 380.1531 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, is amended
4 to read as follows:

5 Sec. 1531. (1) Except as provided in this section, the
6 state board shall determine the requirements for and issue all
7 licenses and certificates for teachers, including preprimary
8 teachers, and the requirements for an endorsement of teachers as
9 qualified counselors in the public schools of the state.

1 (2) Beginning September 1, 1991, the state board shall only
2 issue a teaching certificate to a person who has passed both a
3 basic skills examination and each appropriate subject area exami-
4 nation for each subject area in which he or she is to be
5 certified. Beginning September 1, 1991, persons holding teaching
6 degrees from out-of-state teacher preparation institutions and
7 who apply for a Michigan teacher's certificate shall be required
8 to pass both a Michigan state board approved basic skills exami-
9 nation and each appropriate Michigan state board approved subject
10 area examination.

11 (3) Not later than June 1, 1988, the department, based upon
12 criteria recommended pursuant to subsection (5), shall provide to
13 state board approved teacher education institutions state board
14 approved guidelines and criteria for use in the development or
15 selection of a basic skills examination, and not later than
16 June 1, 1989, approved guidelines and criteria for use in the
17 development or selection of subject area examinations.

18 (4) Not later than January 1, 1989, the state board, based
19 upon criteria recommended pursuant to subsection (5), shall
20 develop, select, or develop and select 1 or more basic skills
21 examinations, and not later than January 1, 1990, subject area
22 examinations that may be used by an approved teacher education
23 institution.

24 (5) ~~Within 30 days after the effective date of the amenda-~~
25 ~~try act that adds this subsection~~ NOT LATER THAN JANUARY 18,
26 1987, the state board shall appoint an 11-member teacher
27 examination advisory committee comprised of representatives of

1 approved teacher education institutions and Michigan education
2 organizations and associations. Not more than 1/2 of the members
3 comprising this committee shall be certified teachers. Not later
4 than January 1, 1988, this committee shall recommend criteria to
5 be used by the state board in the development, selection, or
6 development and selection of 1 or more basic skills examinations,
7 and not later than January 1, 1989, criteria to be used by the
8 state board in the development, selection, or development and
9 selection of subject area examinations. In addition, by those
10 dates, the committee shall recommend guidelines for the use and
11 administration of those examinations. The basic skills examina-
12 tions referred to in this subsection may be developed by the
13 state board or selected by the state board from commercially or
14 university developed examinations. In addition, an approved
15 teacher education institution, pursuant to guidelines and cri-
16 teria described in subsection (3), may develop an examination at
17 its own expense for approval by the state board. An approved
18 teacher education institution that develops its own examination
19 ~~shall be~~ IS liable for any litigation that results from the use
20 of its examination.

21 (6) ~~Within 30 days after the effective date of the amenda-~~
22 ~~tory act that adds this subsection~~ NOT LATER THAN JANUARY 18,
23 1987, the state board shall appoint a 7-member standing technical
24 advisory council comprised of persons who are experts in measure-
25 ment and assessment. This council shall advise the state board
26 and the teacher examination committee on the validity,
27 reliability, and other technical standards of the examinations

1 that will be used or are being used and of the administration and
2 use of those examinations.

3 (7) Not later than September 1, 1992 and each year thereaf-
4 ter, the state board shall submit in writing a report on the
5 development or selection and use of the basic skills examination
6 and the subject area examinations to the house and senate educa-
7 tion committees. The report shall also contain a financial
8 statement regarding revenue received from the assessment of fees
9 levied pursuant to subsection (9) and the amount of and any pur-
10 poses for which that revenue was expended.

11 (8) The basic skills examination and the subject area exami-
12 nations required by this section may be taken at different times
13 during an approved teacher preparation program, but must be
14 passed before a person is enrolled for student teaching.

15 (9) The department, or if approved by the state board, a
16 private testing service, may assess a fee for taking the basic
17 skills and the subject area examinations. The fees, which shall
18 be set by the state board, shall not exceed \$50.00 for a basic
19 skills examination nor \$75.00 for a subject area examination.
20 Fees received by the department shall be expended solely for
21 administrative expenses that it incurs in implementing subsec-
22 tions (2) to ~~-(12)-~~ (14).

23 (10) As used in this section:

24 (a) "Basic skills examination" means an examination devel-
25 oped or selected by the state board or developed pursuant to sub-
26 section (5) by an approved teacher education institution for the
27 purpose of demonstrating the applicant's knowledge and

1 understanding of basic language and mathematical skills and other
2 skills necessary for the certificate sought, and for determining
3 whether or not a teacher education graduate is eligible for a
4 provisional or probationary Michigan teaching certificate. Not
5 later than June 30, 1987, the department shall advise the state
6 board and the legislature whether or not the department recom-
7 mends that the basic skills examination include an examination of
8 a person's knowledge and understanding of 1 or more of the
9 following: brain function, learning styles, and learning
10 processes.

11 (b) "Subject area examination" means an examination related
12 to a specific area of certification, which examination has been
13 developed or selected by the state board for the purpose of
14 demonstrating the applicant's knowledge and understanding of the
15 subject matter and determining whether or not a teacher education
16 graduate is eligible for a provisional or probationary Michigan
17 teaching certificate.

18 (11) The state board shall certify as qualified the supervi-
19 sors required in section 1506. The state board shall certify
20 teachers as qualified to teach the class described in section
21 1507(1), based upon the recommendation of a teacher training
22 institution, upon an evaluation of the teacher's educational
23 qualifications and experience, and upon any additional require-
24 ments the state board considers necessary.

25 (12) BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 1993, THE STATE BOARD SHALL ONLY
26 ISSUE A TEACHING CERTIFICATE TO A PERSON WHO HAS PASSED A
27 COLLEGE-LEVEL PHILOSOPHY COURSE THAT PROVIDES INSTRUCTION IN THE

1 IMPORTANCE OF ETHICS AND VALUES. AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION,
2 "ETHICS AND VALUES" INCLUDES AT LEAST ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ETHI-
3 CAL PRINCIPLES AND THE ACCOMPANYING CHARACTERISTICS ASSOCIATED
4 WITH ETHICAL BEHAVIOR.

5 (A) HONESTY: TO BE TRUTHFUL, SINCERE, FORTHRIGHT, STRAIGHT-
6 FORWARD, FRANK, AND CANDID; TO NOT CHEAT, STEAL, LIE, DECEIVE, OR
7 ACT DEVIOUSLY.

8 (B) INTEGRITY: TO BE PRINCIPLED, HONORABLE, AND UPRIGHT; TO
9 NOT BE TWO-FACED OR UNSCRUPULOUS.

10 (C) PROMISE-KEEPING: TO BE WORTHY OF TRUST, KEEP PROMISES,
11 FULFILL COMMITMENTS, AND ABIDE BY THE SPIRIT AS WELL AS THE
12 LETTER OF AN AGREEMENT.

13 (D) LOYALTY: TO BE FAITHFUL AND LOYAL TO FAMILY, FRIENDS,
14 EMPLOYERS, CLIENTS, AND COUNTRY.

15 (E) FAIRNESS: TO BE FAIR AND OPEN-MINDED, WILLING TO ADMIT
16 ERROR, AND, IF APPROPRIATE, CHANGE POSITIONS AND BELIEFS; TO
17 DEMONSTRATE A COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE AND THE EQUAL TREATMENT OF
18 INDIVIDUALS.

19 (F) CARING FOR OTHERS: TO BE CARING, KIND, AND COMPASSION-
20 ATE; TO SHARE; TO BE GIVING AND OF SERVICE TO OTHERS; TO HELP
21 THOSE IN NEED AND AVOID HARMING OTHERS.

22 (G) RESPECT FOR OTHERS: TO DEMONSTRATE RESPECT FOR OTHER
23 PEOPLE'S PROPERTY, HUMAN DIGNITY, AND PRIVACY; TO BE COURTEOUS,
24 PROMPT, AND DECENT; TO NOT PATRONIZE, EMBARRASS, OR DEMEAN.

25 (H) RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP: TO OBEY THE LAWS AND, IF A LAW
26 IS UNJUST, OPENLY PROTEST IT; TO EXERCISE ALL DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS
27 AND PRIVILEGES RESPONSIBLY BY PARTICIPATION THROUGH VOTING AND

1 EXPRESSING INFORMED VIEWS, SOCIAL CONSCIOUSNESS, AND PUBLIC
2 SERVICE; WHEN IN A POSITION OF LEADERSHIP OR AUTHORITY, TO OPENLY
3 RESPECT AND HONOR DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES OF DECISION MAKING, AVOID
4 UNNECESSARY SECRECY OR CONCEALMENT OF INFORMATION, AND ASSURE
5 THAT OTHERS HAVE ALL THE INFORMATION THEY NEED TO MAKE INTELLI-
6 GENT CHOICES AND EXERCISE THEIR RIGHTS.

7 (I) PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE: TO PURSUE EXCELLENCE IN ALL MAT-
8 TERS AND IN MEETING PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES;
9 TO BE DILIGENT, RELIABLE, INDUSTRIOUS, AND COMMITTED; TO PERFORM
10 ALL TASKS TO THE BEST OF ONE'S ABILITY, DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A
11 HIGH DEGREE OF COMPETENCE, AND BE WELL INFORMED AND WELL PRE-
12 PARED; TO NOT BE CONTENT WITH MEDIOCRITY; TO NOT STRIVE TO "WIN
13 AT ANY COST".

14 (J) ACCOUNTABILITY: TO BE ACCOUNTABLE AND ACCEPT RESPONSI-
15 BILITY FOR DECISIONS, FOR THE FORESEEABLE CONSEQUENCES OF ACTIONS
16 AND INACTIONS, AND FOR SETTING AN EXAMPLE FOR OTHERS. TO AVOID
17 EVEN THE APPEARANCE OF IMPROPRIETY AND TO TAKE NECESSARY ACTION
18 TO CORRECT OR PREVENT INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT OF OTHERS.

19 (13) BEGINNING NOT LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1, 1992, THE STATE
20 BOARD SHALL REQUIRE A STATE BOARD APPROVED TEACHER EDUCATION
21 INSTITUTION TO OFFER A PHILOSOPHY COURSE DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION
22 (12).

23 (14) ~~-(12)-~~ The state board shall promulgate rules for the
24 implementation of this section.