The Legislature
of the
State of New Mexico

52nd Legislature, 1st Session

LAWS 2015

CHAPTER 97

SENATE BILL 329, as amended

Introduced by

SENATOR GAY G. KERNAN
CHAPTER 97

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; AMENDING THE SCHOOL PERSONNEL ACT TO
CHANGE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR PERSONS SEEKING LICENSURE OR
RECIPROCITY IN ELEMENTARY, SPECIAL, EARLY CHILDHOOD OR
SECONDARY EDUCATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 22-10A-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1986, Chapter 33, Section 8, as amended) is amended to read:

"22-10A-6. EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE.--

A. The department shall require a person seeking
licensure or reciprocity in elementary, special, early
childhood or secondary education to have completed the
following minimum requirements in the college of arts and
sciences:

(1) nine semester hours in communication;
(2) six semester hours in mathematics;
(3) eight semester hours in laboratory
science;
(4) nine semester hours in social and
behavioral science; and
(5) nine semester hours in humanities and
fine arts.

B. In addition to the requirements specified in
Subsections A and C of this section, the department shall
require that a person seeking standard or alternative elementary licensure shall have completed six hours of reading courses, and a person seeking standard or alternative secondary licensure shall have completed three hours of reading courses in subject matter content. The department shall establish requirements that provide a reasonable period of time to comply with the provisions of this subsection.

C. Except for licensure by reciprocity, the department shall require, prior to initial licensure, no less than sixteen weeks of student teaching, a portion of which shall occur in the first thirty credit hours taken in the college of education and shall be under the direct supervision of a teacher and a portion of which shall occur in the student's senior year with the student teacher being directly responsible for the classroom.

D. Nothing in this section shall preclude the department from establishing or accepting equivalent requirements for purposes of reciprocal licensure or minimum requirements for alternative licensure.

E. Vocational teacher preparatory programs may be exempt from Subsections A through C of this section upon a determination by the department that other licensure requirements are more appropriate for vocational teacher preparatory programs."

SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
provisions of this act is July 1, 2016.
John A. Sanchez, President
Senate

Lenore M. Naranjo, Chief Clerk
Senate

Don L. Tripp, Speaker
House of Representatives

Denise Ramonas, Chief Clerk
House of Representatives

Approved by me this [date] day of [month], 2015

Governor Susana Martinez
State of New Mexico