Enrolled Senate Bill 221

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CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to educator preparation program requirements; creating new provisions; amending ORS 342.147; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 342.147 is amended to read:

342.147. (1)(a) The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission shall establish by rule standards for approval of educator preparation providers and educator preparation programs.

(b) Standards for approval of an educator preparation program for early childhood education, elementary education, special education or reading must require that:

(A) The program provide instruction on dyslexia and other reading difficulties; and [that]

(B) The instruction **on dyslexia** be consistent with the knowledge and practice standards of an international organization on dyslexia.

(2) The commission shall adopt rules that:

(a) Require approved educator preparation programs for early childhood education, elementary education, special education or reading to demonstrate that candidates enrolled in the programs receive training to provide instruction that enables students to meet or exceed third-grade reading standards and become proficient readers by the end of the third grade, as designated by the State Board of Education. For the purposes of this paragraph,[:]

[(A)] an approved educator preparation program may make the demonstration through course curriculum, approved textbooks or other program requirements.

[(B) An approved educator preparation program that is unable to make the demonstration shall develop a plan to meet the requirement within one year and shall report to the commission on the progress of implementing that plan.]

(b) Allow approved educator preparation programs leading to graduate degrees to commence prior to the candidate's completion of baccalaureate degree requirements and to combine undergraduate and graduate level course work in achieving program completion.

(3) Whenever any educator preparation provider or educator preparation program is denied approved status or has such status withdrawn, the denial or withdrawal must be treated as a contested case under ORS chapter 183.

(4) Nothing in this section is intended to grant to the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission any authority relating to granting degrees or establishing degree requirements that are within the authority of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission or any of the public universities listed in ORS 352.002, or that are within the authority of the governing board of any private institution of higher education.

SECTION 2. ORS 342.147, as amended by section 8, chapter 756, Oregon Laws 2015, is amended to read:

342.147. (1)(a) The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission shall establish by rule standards for approval of educator preparation providers and educator preparation programs.

(b) Standards for approval of an educator preparation program must include:

(A) Requiring an educator preparation program to be accredited by a national organization that represents teachers, policymakers and teacher educators and that provides accreditation based on nationally recognized standards and on evidence-based measures; and

(B) Approving a public educator preparation program of more than four years' duration only if educator preparation programs that are reasonably attainable in a four-year period are also available in the system of higher education and are designed to culminate in a baccalaureate degree that qualifies their graduates for entry-level teaching licenses.

(c) Standards for approval of an educator preparation program for early childhood education, elementary education, special education or reading must require that:

(A) The program provide instruction on dyslexia and other reading difficulties; and [that]

(B) The instruction **on dyslexia** be consistent with the knowledge and practice standards of an international organization on dyslexia.

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<u>SECTION 3.</u> (1) Notwithstanding ORS 342.147 (1)(b) and (2), the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission may not deny approval of an educator preparation program for failure to comply with standards or rules adopted under ORS 342.147 (1)(b) or (2) for three years from the date that the commission first adopts the standards or rules if the educator preparation program:

(a) Develops a plan to comply with the standards and rules; and

(b) Submits the plan to the commission within one year of the commission adopting the standards and rules.

(2) A plan submitted under this section may phase in implementation of the requirements if complete implementation is scheduled within three years of the commission first adopting the standards and rules under ORS 342.147 (1)(b) and (2).

SECTION 4. Section 3 of this 2017 Act is repealed on June 30, 2022.

SECTION 5. This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect on its passage.

Received by Governor:
Approved:
Kate Brown, Governor
Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

Dennis Richardson, Secretary of State

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