



The Legislature
of the
State of New Mexico

49th Legislature, 2nd Session

LAWS 2010

CHAPTER 113

HOUSE BILL 71, as amended

Introduced by

REPRESENTATIVE SHERYL WILLIAMS STAPLETON

REPRESENTATIVE RICK MIERA
REPRESENTATIVE RHONDA S. KING
REPRESENTATIVE KAREN E. GIANNINI

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY
COMMITTEE



13

Chapter 113

AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOOL PERSONNEL; CHANGING REQUIREMENTS FOR MENTORSHIP OF LEVEL ONE TEACHERS; PROVIDING FOR FUNDING FOR MENTORSHIP BEYOND THE FIRST YEAR IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

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

Section 1. Section 22-10A-7 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003, Chapter 153, Section 38, as amended by Laws 2005, Chapter 315, Section 5 and by Laws 2005, Chapter 316, Section 2) is amended to read:

"22-10A-7. LEVEL ONE LICENSURE.--

A. A level one license is a provisional five-year license for beginning teachers that requires as a condition of licensure that the licensee undergo a formal mentorship program for at least one full school year and an annual intensive performance evaluation by a school administrator for at least three full school years before applying for a level two license.

B. Each school district, in accordance with department rules, shall provide for the mentorship and evaluation of level one teachers. At the end of each year and at the end of the license period, the level one teacher shall be evaluated for competency. If the teacher fails to demonstrate satisfactory progress and competence annually, the teacher may be terminated as provided in Section 22-10A-24

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1 NMSA 1978. If the teacher has not demonstrated satisfactory
2 progress and competence by the end of the five-year period,
3 the teacher shall not be granted a level two license.

4 C. Except in exigent circumstances defined by
5 department rule, a level one license shall not be extended
6 beyond the initial period.

7 D. The department shall issue a standard level one
8 license to an applicant who is at least eighteen years of age
9 who:

10 (1) holds a baccalaureate degree from an
11 accredited educational institution;

12 (2) has successfully completed a department-
13 approved teacher preparation program from a nationally
14 accredited or state-approved educational institution;

15 (3) has passed the New Mexico teacher
16 assessments examination; and

17 (4) meets other qualifications for level one
18 licensure, including clearance of the required background
19 check.

20 E. The department shall issue an alternative level
21 one license to an applicant who meets the requirements of
22 Section 22-10A-8 NMSA 1978.

23 F. The department shall establish competencies and
24 qualifications for specific grade levels, types and subject
25 areas of level one licensure, including early childhood,

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1 elementary, middle school, secondary, special education and
2 vocational education.

3 G. Beginning with the 2003-2004 school year, with
4 the adoption by the department of a highly objective uniform
5 statewide standard of evaluation for level one teachers, the
6 minimum salary for a level one teacher shall be thirty
7 thousand dollars (\$30,000) for a standard nine and one-half
8 month contract.

9 H. Teachers who hold level one licenses on the
10 effective date of the 2003 act must be evaluated by the end of
11 the 2006-2007 school year."

12 Section 2. Section 22-10A-9 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003,
13 Chapter 153, Section 40, as amended) is amended to read:

14 "22-10A-9. TEACHER MENTORSHIP PROGRAM FOR BEGINNING
15 TEACHERS--PURPOSE--DEPARTMENT DUTIES.--

16 A. The purpose of the teacher mentorship program
17 is to provide beginning teachers with an effective transition
18 into the teaching field, to build on their initial preparation
19 and to ensure their success in teaching; to improve the
20 achievement of students; and to retain capable teachers in the
21 classroom and to remove teachers who show little promise of
22 success.

23 B. The department shall develop a framework for a
24 teacher mentorship program for all first-year teachers. The
25 program shall provide mentorship services by level two or

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1 level three mentors to the first-year teacher for the full
2 school year. If sufficient mentorship funds are available,
3 the department may provide funding for mentorship services
4 that extend beyond the first year if the local superintendent
5 or charter school administrator certifies to the secretary
6 that further formal mentorship of a beginning teacher will
7 accomplish the purposes of Subsection A of this section;
8 provided that the state shall not pay for more than three
9 years' mentorship for any beginning teacher.

10 C. The department shall work with licensed school
11 employees, representatives from teacher preparation programs
12 and the higher education department to establish the
13 framework.

14 D. The framework shall include:

- 15 (1) individual support and assistance for
16 each beginning teacher from a designated mentor;
- 17 (2) structured training for mentors;
- 18 (3) an ongoing, formative evaluation that is
19 used for the improvement of teaching practice;
- 20 (4) procedures for a summative evaluation of
21 beginning teachers' performance during at least the first
22 three years of teaching, including annual assessment of
23 suitability for license renewal, and for final assessment of
24 beginning teachers seeking level two licensure;
- 25 (5) support from local school boards, school

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1 administrators and other school district personnel; and

2 (6) regular review and evaluation of the
3 teacher mentorship program.

4 E. The department shall:

5 (1) require submission and approval of each
6 school district's teacher mentorship program;

7 (2) provide technical assistance to school
8 districts that do not have a well-developed teacher mentorship
9 program in place;

10 (3) encourage school districts to
11 collaborate with teacher preparation program administrators at
12 institutions of higher education, career educators,
13 educational organizations, regional service centers and other
14 state and community leaders in the teacher mentorship program;
15 and

16 (4) distribute no less than fifty percent of
17 available funds for mentorship programs to school districts on
18 or before September 15 of each fiscal year according to the
19 estimated number of teachers eligible to participate in a
20 mentorship program on the fortieth day of the school year and,
21 on or before January 15 of each fiscal year, distribute the
22 balance of the available funds based on the actual number of
23 eligible teachers participating in a mentorship program on the
24 fortieth day of the school year, adjusted for any over- or
25 under-estimation made in the first allocation.

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1 F. The department shall require that teacher
2 preparation programs collaborate with colleges of arts and
3 sciences and high schools to develop a model to provide
4 mentorship services with structured supervision and feedback
5 to each of their graduates who have obtained a teaching
6 position in a public high school, including charter schools;
7 develop cost estimates; and provide recommendations to the
8 legislative education study committee by November 1, 2007.
9 The model shall provide for the following:

10 (1) mentorship services for the first year
11 as a level one teacher to each of their graduates who has
12 obtained a teaching position in any New Mexico public high
13 school, including charter schools; provided that teacher
14 preparation programs may enter into contracts or memoranda of
15 agreement with each other or with level three teachers in
16 providing services to their students;

17 (2) an annual report to the department of
18 the number of teachers that have completed each of their
19 programs the previous spring or summer and have been hired by
20 public high schools, including charter schools, for the
21 following school year; and

22 (3) an annual report providing a description
23 of the mentorship services that will be provided to each of
24 their teachers, including the name of the teacher, the grade
25 level the teacher has been hired to teach and the name of the

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school and district where the teacher has been hired."=====

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Ben Lujan

BEN LUJAN, SPEAKER
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DIANE D. DENISH, PRESIDENT
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LENORE M. NARANJO, CHIEF CLERK
SENATE

Approved by me this 10th day of March, 2010

Bill Richardson

BILL RICHARDSON, GOVERNOR
STATE OF NEW MEXICO

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Approved by me this 12th day of March, 2010.

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