

State of Arkansas  
92nd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2019

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1638

By: Representatives F. Allen, Vaught, K. Ferguson, Nicks, Walker  
By: Senator J. English

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING A TEACHING LICENSE; TO AMEND PROVISIONS REGARDING THE ASSESSMENTS A PERSON MUST PASS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A TEACHING LICENSE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO AMEND PROVISIONS REGARDING THE ASSESSMENTS A PERSON MUST PASS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A TEACHING LICENSE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-402(c)(2)(A)(ii)(a), concerning the application of a person who is applying for the first time for an elementary education kindergarten through grade six (K-6) license or a special education kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) license, is amended to read as follows:

(ii)(a) A person applying for first-time licensure for an elementary education ~~K-6~~ kindergarten through grade six (K-6) license or a special education ~~K-12~~ kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) license shall: ~~take and pass~~

(1) Pass a:

~~(1)(A)~~ Subject matter content

assessment; and

~~(2) Pedagogy assessment; and~~

~~(3)(B)~~ Stand-alone assessment that



examines the acquisition of knowledge of essential components of beginning reading instruction based on the science of reading~~;~~ and

(2) Demonstrate pedagogical competence.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-17-409(e)(1), concerning licensure requirements for a person enrolled in an alternative educator preparation program, is amended to read as follows:

(1)(A) Passing scores, as set by the state board, on ~~state-~~required pedagogical and subject matter content-area assessments, or their substantial equivalents.

(B) As used in this subdivision (e)(1), “substantial equivalents” includes without limitation the assessments required by the American Board for the Certification of Teacher Excellence program and ~~an~~ any alternative method of demonstrating subject matter content competency identified by the state board under § 6-15-1004~~;~~.

(C) An individual under this section shall demonstrate pedagogical competence;