

HOUSE BILL NO. 608

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE LEWIS (6).

1525H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 168, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to substitute teacher licensing.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 168, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 168.036, to read as follows:

168.036. 1. In addition to granting certificates of license to teach in public schools of the state as provided in section 168.021, the state board of education shall grant substitute teacher certificates as provided in this section to any individual seeking to substitute teach in any public school in this state.

2. (1) The state board shall not grant a certificate of license to teach under this section to any individual who has not completed a background check as described in section 168.133.

(2) A background check conducted under this subsection shall be valid for four years for purposes of the certificate granted under this section and shall be transferrable from one school district to another district except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection.

(3) A school district employing a substitute teacher who has a certificate granted under this section may require the teacher to complete the background check annually. A school district may require the background check required in this section for a newly hired substitute teacher to be conducted at the teacher's expense.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

16 **(4) The state board may refuse to issue or renew, suspend, or revoke any certificate**
17 **sought or issued under this section in the same manner and for the same reasons as**
18 **provided in section 168.071.**

19 **3. The state board may grant a certificate under this section to any individual who**
20 **has completed the background check required in this section and who has completed:**

21 **(1) At least thirty-six semester hours at an accredited institution of higher**
22 **education and the four-hour orientation required in this section; or**

23 **(2) The twenty-hour online training program required in this section and who**
24 **possesses a high school diploma or the equivalent thereof.**

25 **4. An individual to whom the state board grants a certificate under this section may**
26 **be a substitute teacher in any public school in the state if a school district superintendent,**
27 **school district assistant superintendent, or public school principal in this state agrees to**
28 **sponsor the individual as a substitute teacher.**

29 **5. An individual to whom the state board grants a certificate under this section**
30 **shall complete an orientation developed and offered by the school district for which the**
31 **individual originally teaches. The orientation for such individuals shall contain at least**
32 **four hours of subjects appropriate for substitute teachers. Such orientation completed in**
33 **the original school district shall be accepted by any subsequent district in which the**
34 **individual substitute teaches. A subsequent school district may require the individual to**
35 **complete a separate and distinct local orientation for the particular school district before**
36 **the individual may substitute teach in the subsequent school district.**

37 **6. A certificate granted under this section shall be valid for four years. A certificate**
38 **granted under this section shall expire at the end of any calendar year in which the**
39 **individual fails to substitute teach for at least five days.**

40 **7. The department of elementary and secondary education shall develop an online**
41 **training program for individuals granted a certificate under subdivision (2) of subsection**
42 **3 of this section. The training program shall consist of twenty hours of training related to**
43 **subjects appropriate for substitute teachers as determined by the department. A substitute**
44 **teacher shall complete an orientation for substitute teachers provided by the school district**
45 **in which the substitute teacher teaches.**

46 **8. Any individual possessing a valid certificate of license to teach granted by the**
47 **state board shall be deemed to be a substitute teacher under this section if the individual**
48 **has completed a background check as required in this section.**

49 **9. The state board may exercise the board's authority as provided in chapter 161**
50 **to promulgate all necessary rules and regulations necessary for the administration of this**
51 **section.**

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