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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. As noted in article XV, section 4, of the  
2 Hawaii state constitution, the State of Hawaii has two official  
3 languages, Hawaiian and English. There is a Hawaiian language  
4 public education system, as well as a Hawaiian language college,  
5 to provide for education through the use of the Hawaiian  
6 language. However, the legislature believes that the study,  
7 learning, and use of the Hawaiian language by educators and  
8 administrators can offer insight and understanding of the  
9 cultural foundation, learning preferences, and traditions of  
10 many of the youth attending public schools in Hawaii. The  
11 legislature further believes that the use and teaching of the  
12 Hawaiian language must be further encouraged.

13           The purpose of this Act is to increase the base of public  
14 school educators and administrators who are compassionate and  
15 responsive to the cultural foundation, learning preferences, and  
16 traditions of native Hawaiian youth, as well as willing to  
17 promote and encourage the use and teaching of the Hawaiian  
18 language.



1 SECTION 2. Section 302A-802, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 **"§302A-802 Licensing standards; policies.** (a) The board  
4 shall establish licensing standards that govern teacher  
5 licensing in Hawaii. Licensing standards established by the  
6 board shall be adopted as rules under chapter 91 unless  
7 otherwise specified in this subpart.

8 (b) In the development of its standards, the board shall  
9 consider the existing teacher applicant pool that is available  
10 in the State and the level of the qualification of these  
11 applicants, as well as the nature and availability of existing  
12 preservice higher education teacher training programs.

13 (c) The board shall adopt policies, exempt from chapters  
14 91 and 92, to initiate the following:

15 (1) Beginning with the 2007-2008 school year, require all  
16 new teachers to satisfactorily complete at least one  
17 course in Hawaiian language instruction as part of the  
18 teacher licensing requirements;

19 [~~(1)~~] (2) Develop a plan for licensing more individuals  
20 with practical experience for teaching in  
21 vocational/technical programs;



1        [~~(2)~~] (3)    Develop a plan to accept teachers from any state  
2                    as long as they have completed state-approved teacher  
3                    education programs and pass relevant Hawaii teacher  
4                    examinations or their equivalent;

5        [~~(3)~~] (4)    Clarify the requirements, on a state-by-state  
6                    basis, for out-of-state licensed teachers to obtain a  
7                    license in Hawaii;

8        [~~(4)~~] (5)    Develop a plan to facilitate licensing for those  
9                    who intend to teach in Hawaii immersion programs, the  
10                   island of Niihau, or any other [~~+~~]extraordinary[~~+~~]  
11                   situation as defined by the [~~+~~]superintendent[~~+~~] or  
12                   the superintendent's designee; and

13        [~~(5)~~] (6)    Pursue full teacher license reciprocity with the  
14                    mid-Atlantic states, California, Colorado, Illinois,  
15                    Michigan, New York, Oregon, and Washington."

16        SECTION 3.    Section 302A-605, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
17        amended to read as follows:

18        "**§302A-605    Principals and vice-principals.**    (a)

19        Principals shall meet the department's certification  
20        requirements and shall have not less than five years of  
21        appropriate school-level experience of which at least three  
22        years shall have been as a teacher.



1 (b) Vice-principals shall meet the department's  
2 certification requirements and shall have appropriate school-  
3 level experience as determined by the department.

4 (c) Beginning with the 2007-2008 school year, all new  
5 principals and vice-principals shall have satisfactorily  
6 completed at least one Hawaiian language instruction course as  
7 part of their certification requirements.

8 [~~e~~] (d) On a case-by-case basis, the department may  
9 waive the certification requirements and school-level experience  
10 for vice-principal candidates with appropriate administrative  
11 experience. The department shall establish criteria and reasons  
12 for waivers pursuant to chapter 91."

13 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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HB 3001

**Report Title:**

Education; Teacher Certification; Hawaiian Language

**Description:**

Requires all public school principals, vice-principals, and teachers of the department of education to satisfactorily complete at least one course in Hawaiian language instruction as part of their certification requirements.

