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HOUSE BILL 22

**56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024**

INTRODUCED BY

Joy Garratt and Raymundo Lara and Brian G. Baca

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION; CREATING THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR  
PREPARATION PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS ACT; REQUIRING SCHOOL  
ADMINISTRATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS OFFERED BY POST-SECONDARY  
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OR OTHER APPROVED PROVIDERS TO MEET  
NATIONAL AND STATE STANDARDS EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS; SPECIFYING  
QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE  
CLINICAL EXPERIENCES AS PART OF A SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR  
PREPARATION PROGRAM; PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY TO THE  
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT; CREATING THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP  
INSTITUTE WITHIN THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING  
REQUIREMENTS FOR LEVEL THREE-B LICENSURE FOR SCHOOL  
ADMINISTRATORS; CHANGING THE MINIMUM SALARY AMOUNT OF AN  
ALTERNATIVE LEVEL THREE B-LICENSED SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OR  
ASSISTANT SCHOOL PRINCIPAL; REPEALING THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP  
INSTITUTE WITHIN THE HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT; MAKING AN

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1 APPROPRIATION.

2

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

4 SECTION 1. A new section of the Public School Code is  
5 enacted to read:

6 "[NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--Sections 1 through 4 of this  
7 act may be cited as the "School Administrator Preparation  
8 Program Requirements Act".

9 SECTION 2. A new section of the Public School Code is  
10 enacted to read:

11 "[NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS.--As used in the School  
12 Administrator Preparation Program Requirements Act:

13 A. "institute" means the school leadership  
14 institute; and

15 B. "program" means a school administrator  
16 preparation program in New Mexico."

17 SECTION 3. A new section of the Public School Code is  
18 enacted to read:

19 "[NEW MATERIAL] STANDARDS-BASED SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR  
20 PREPARATION PROGRAMS--REQUIREMENTS--DEPARTMENT APPROVAL.--

21 A. Any public post-secondary educational  
22 institution, tribal college or other qualified entity that  
23 wants to offer a program is required to have the program  
24 approved by the department under new criteria set forth in the  
25 School Administrator Preparation Program Requirements Act. The

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1 department shall promulgate rules as necessary to implement the  
2 provisions of the School Administrator Preparation Program  
3 Requirements Act.

4 B. The department shall establish, by rule,  
5 criteria for programs that include the following research-based  
6 features of effective leader preparation programs:

7 (1) coherent curriculum aligned to national  
8 and state standards;

9 (2) deliberate candidate recruitment and  
10 selection;

11 (3) robust clinical experience through a full-  
12 academic-year, paid residency;

13 (4) cohort structure with trained coaches; and

14 (5) formal partnerships between the program  
15 and school districts and charter schools.

16 C. No later than July 1, 2026, programs shall be  
17 approved by the department before enrolling new students  
18 seeking school administrator licensure. Students enrolled  
19 before the effective date of the School Administrator  
20 Preparation Program Requirements Act may be granted licensure  
21 in accordance with existing program approvals.

22 D. The department shall create a process for  
23 approving new and revised programs. The department shall  
24 consult the professional practices and standards committee and  
25 publish a manual outlining the requirements for program

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1 approval. The process shall be aligned with the School  
2 Administrator Preparation Program Requirements Act and meet the  
3 general requirements of programs as determined by the  
4 department.

5 E. All programs seeking approval, including those  
6 previously approved, shall submit an application to the  
7 department by January 15, 2026. Applications shall provide the  
8 information outlined in the school administrator preparation  
9 professional practices and standards committee manual developed  
10 and published pursuant to Subsection D of this section.

11 F. The department shall monitor program success and  
12 candidate outcomes through educator accountability report  
13 indicators, including data tracking of graduates through a  
14 completer survey issued to all graduates within one year of  
15 program completion that measures completers' perception of  
16 their own readiness and individual effectiveness in the  
17 position.

18 G. Nothing in this section shall preclude the  
19 department from establishing or accepting equivalent  
20 requirements for the purposes of reciprocal licensure for out-  
21 of-state school administrators.

22 H. If a local superintendent or governing authority  
23 of a public school certifies to the department that an  
24 emergency exists in the hiring of a qualified school principal,  
25 the department may issue a certificate of principalship waiver

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1 to a person who holds a level two or level three-A license but  
2 does not meet the other requirements for a level three-B  
3 license. Certificates of principalship waivers are one-year  
4 waivers and may not be renewed."

5 SECTION 4. A new section of the Public School Code is  
6 enacted to read:

7 "[NEW MATERIAL] SCHOOL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE--CREATED--  
8 DUTIES.--

9 A. The "school leadership institute" is created and  
10 administratively attached to the department. The department  
11 shall provide administrative services for the institute. The  
12 institute shall provide a comprehensive and cohesive framework  
13 for preparing, mentoring and providing professional development  
14 for school principals and other public school leaders.

15 B. The institute shall offer at least the following  
16 programs:

17 (1) licensure preparation for aspiring school  
18 principals;

19 (2) mentoring for new school principals and  
20 other public school leaders;

21 (3) intensive support for school principals at  
22 schools in need of improvement;

23 (4) professional development for aspiring  
24 local superintendents; and

25 (5) mentoring for new local superintendents.

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1           C. The institute shall partner with state agencies,  
2 public schools, post-secondary educational institutions and  
3 professional associations to identify, recruit and mentor  
4 candidates for the institute."

5           **SECTION 5.** Section 22-10A-11.3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws  
6 2009, Chapter 117, Section 2) is amended to read:

7           "22-10A-11.3. LEVEL THREE-B PROVISIONAL LICENSURE FOR  
8 SCHOOL PRINCIPALS.--

9           A. A school district that has a shortage of  
10 qualified school principal candidates may request that the  
11 department issue a provisional three-B license to a level two  
12 teacher whom the school district believes has the potential to  
13 be an effective school principal.

14           B. To qualify for a provisional three-B license,  
15 the candidate shall:

16                       (1) meet the requirements for a level  
17 three-A license;

18                       (2) be enrolled in a department-approved  
19 induction and mentoring program in the school district; and

20                       (3) be accepted into a department-approved  
21 school administrator preparation program.

22           C. The provisional license is a four-year license  
23 and is not renewable. To maintain the provisional license, the  
24 licensee must receive satisfactory evaluations each year from  
25 the school district's mentoring program and from the school

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1 administrator preparation program. At the end of the four  
2 years, the provisional license may be converted to a regular  
3 level three-B license if the candidate:

4 (1) satisfactorily completes the school  
5 district's mentoring program; and

6 (2) satisfactorily completes the department-  
7 approved school administrator preparation program, including  
8 the year-long residency or an alternative clinical experience  
9 approved by the department when the full-academic-year, paid  
10 residency is not feasible."

11 SECTION 6. Section 22-10A-17.2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws  
12 2017, Chapter 68, Section 1) is amended to read:

13 "22-10A-17.2. ALTERNATIVE LEVEL THREE-B LICENSURE--TRACK  
14 FOR INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT PROVIDERS.--

15 A. An alternative level three-B license is a five-  
16 year license granted to a school administrator applicant who  
17 meets the qualifications for that level. Licenses may be  
18 renewed upon satisfactory annual demonstration of instructional  
19 leader and administrative competency.

20 B. The department shall grant an alternative level  
21 three-B license to an applicant who is licensed by the  
22 department as a school counselor, school social worker, school  
23 nurse, speech-language pathologist, psychologist, physical  
24 therapist, physical therapy assistant, occupational therapist,  
25 occupational therapy assistant, recreational therapist,

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1 marriage and family therapist, interpreter for the deaf or  
2 diagnostician and who:

3 (1) holds a post-baccalaureate degree;

4 (2) has satisfactorily completed department-  
5 approved courses in administration [~~and~~], including a  
6 department-approved [~~administration apprenticeship program~~]  
7 residency; and

8 (3) demonstrates instructional leader  
9 competence required by the department and verified by the local  
10 superintendent through the highly objective uniform statewide  
11 standard of evaluation.

12 C. The minimum annual salary for an alternative  
13 level three-B licensed school principal or assistant school  
14 principal shall be [~~fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)~~] the  
15 minimum salary for a level three-A teacher multiplied by the  
16 applicable responsibility factor."

17 SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION.--Two million dollars  
18 (\$2,000,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the  
19 public education department for expenditure in fiscal year 2025  
20 and subsequent fiscal years to carry out the purposes of the  
21 School Administrator Preparation Program Requirements Act. Any  
22 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a  
23 fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

24 SECTION 8. REPEAL.--Section 21-1-44 NMSA 1978 (being Laws  
25 2010, Chapter 65, Section 1) is repealed.

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SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 2024.