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**HOUSE BILL 281**

**45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001**

**INTRODUCED BY**

**Rhonda S. King**

**FOR THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE**

**AN ACT**

**RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; REQUIRING READING COURSES FOR  
TEACHER CERTIFICATION.**

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

**Section 1. Section 22-2-8.7 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1986,  
Chapter 33, Section 8, as amended) is amended to read:**

**"22-2-8.7. CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS. --**

**A. The state board shall require any person  
seeking certification in elementary ~~and~~ or secondary  
education to complete the following minimum requirements in  
the college of arts and sciences:**

**(1) twelve hours in English;**

**(2) twelve hours in history, including  
American history and western civilization;**

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(3) six hours in mathematics;

(4) six hours in government, economics or sociology;

(5) twelve hours in science, including biology, chemistry, physics, geology, zoology and botany; and

(6) six hours in fine arts.

B. In addition to the requirements specified in Subsection A of this section, the state board shall require that a person seeking standard or alternative elementary certification shall have completed six hours of reading courses, and a person seeking standard or alternative secondary certification shall have completed three hours of reading courses in subject matter content.

~~[B.]~~ C. The state board shall require, prior to certification, no less than fourteen weeks of student teaching, a portion of which shall occur in the first thirty credit hours taken in the college of education and shall be under the direct supervision of a certified school instructor and a portion of which shall occur in the student's senior year with the student teacher being directly responsible for the classroom.

~~[C.]~~ D. Nothing in this section shall preclude the state board from establishing or accepting equivalent requirements for purposes of reciprocal certification or

underscored material = new  
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1 minimum requirements for alternative certification.

2 ~~[D. The requirements in Subsections A and B of~~  
3 ~~this section shall apply to students first entering a college~~  
4 ~~or university beginning in the fall of 1986.]~~

5 E. Vocational teacher preparatory programs may be  
6 exempt from Subsections A ~~[and B]~~ through C of this section  
7 upon a determination by the state board that other  
8 certification requirements are more appropriate for vocational  
9 teacher preparatory programs. "

10 Section 2. TEMPORARY PROVISION--APPLICABLE STUDENTS. --  
11 The requirements in Subsection B of Section 22-2-8.7 NMSA 1978  
12 shall apply to students first entering a college or university  
13 beginning in the fall of 2001.

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