

Senate Bill 802

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SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act gives a teacher more time to work in the public schools of this state without a license while waiting for the TSPC to review their application for a license. (Flesch Readability Score: 60.7).

Modifies the event to start calculating the 90-day period during which an applicant for a teaching license may be employed in a public school of this state pending evaluation of their application by the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission.

Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2025.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission; creating new provisions; amending
3 ORS 342.125; and declaring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 342.125 is amended to read:

6 342.125. (1) Teaching licenses shall be issued and renewed by the Teacher Standards and Prac-
7 tices Commission by the authority of the State of Oregon, subject to ORS 342.120 to 342.430 and the
8 rules of the commission.

9 (2) Notwithstanding any requirements prescribed for issuance of a license, a person whose ap-
10 plication for a license is pending may be employed in the public schools of this state for 90 calendar
11 days after the date [*of submission of the application if:*] **on which the commission determines the**
12 **person has satisfied any requirement for background checks, including a criminal records**
13 **check as provided in ORS 181A.195 and a background check through an interstate clearing-**
14 **house of revoked and suspended licenses, if:**

15 [*(a) The person is not ineligible for a license following background checks conducted by the*
16 *Teacher Standards and Practices Commission, including a criminal records check as provided in ORS*
17 *181A.195 and a background check through an interstate clearinghouse of revoked and suspended li-*
18 *censes;*]

19 [(b)] (a) The school district has completed the review of the employment history of the person
20 as required by ORS 339.374;

21 [(c)] (b) The person had not been employed as provided by this subsection during the previous
22 12 months with a pending application for the same license; and

23 [(d)] (c) The person and the school district have complied with any other requirements estab-
24 lished by the commission by rule.

25 (3) Subject to ORS 342.130 and to subsection (3) (4) of this section, licenses shall be of the following
26 types:

27 (a) Preliminary teaching license.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

- 1 (b) Professional teaching license.
- 2 (c) Distinguished teacher leader license.
- 3 (d) Preliminary personnel service license.
- 4 (e) Professional personnel service license.
- 5 (f) Preliminary administrative license.
- 6 (g) Professional administrative license.
- 7 (h) Reciprocal license.
- 8 (i) Legacy license.

9 (4) The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission may establish other types of teaching li-
 10 censes as the commission considers necessary for operation of the public schools of the state and
 11 may prescribe the qualifications for the licenses. However, no license established under the au-
 12 thority of this subsection is required for a regular classroom teaching position in the public schools.

13 (5) Notwithstanding ORS 342.127, any person who has held a teaching license identified in sub-
 14 section (3) of this section or established as provided by subsection (4) of this section may, within
 15 three years of retirement and without payment of any fees or any other additional requirements,
 16 convert the teaching license into a substitute teaching license.

17 (6)(a) The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission shall establish a public charter school
 18 teacher and administrator registry. The commission shall require the applicant and the public
 19 charter school to jointly submit an application requesting registration as a public charter school
 20 teacher or administrator. The application shall include:

- 21 (A) A description of the specific teaching or administrator position the applicant will fill;
- 22 (B) A description of the background of the applicant that is relevant to the teaching or admin-
 23 istrator position, including any post-secondary education or other experience; and
- 24 (C) Documentation as required by the commission for the purposes of conducting a criminal re-
 25 cords check as provided in ORS 181A.195 and a background check through an interstate clearing-
 26 house of revoked and suspended licenses.

27 (b) Subject to the results of the criminal records check and background check and to informa-
 28 tion received under ORS 342.143 (2), the commission shall approve the application for registration.
 29 The commission may deny a request for registration only on the basis of the criminal records check,
 30 the background check through an interstate clearinghouse of revoked and suspended licenses or the
 31 information received under ORS 342.143 (2). The registration is valid for a term established by the
 32 commission and, subject to information received under ORS 342.143 (2), may be renewed upon joint
 33 application from the teacher or administrator and the public charter school.

34 (c) A registration as a public charter school teacher qualifies its holder to accept the teaching
 35 position described in the application in the public charter school that submitted the application with
 36 the holder of the registration.

37 (d) A registration as a public charter school administrator qualifies its holder to accept the ad-
 38 ministrator position described in the application in the public charter school that submitted the
 39 application with the holder of the registration.

40 (7)(a) The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission shall adopt an expedited process for the
 41 issuance of any license established pursuant to this section. The expedited process may require the
 42 following:

- 43 (A) The showing of an urgent situation; and
- 44 (B) The joint request for the expedited process from the applicant for the license and:
 45 (i) The school district superintendent or school district board;

1 (ii) The public charter school governing body; or

2 (iii) The education service district superintendent or board of directors of the education service
3 district.

4 (b) Except as provided by paragraph (c) of this subsection, the commission shall issue a license
5 as provided by this subsection within two working days after receiving a completed application.

6 (c) The commission may limit the number of applications the commission will accept under this
7 subsection from a school district or an education service district to not more than 100 applications
8 in a period of two working days.

9 (d) For purposes of this subsection, the commission may not distinguish between a school district
10 or an education service district involved in a labor dispute and any other school district or educa-
11 tion service district.

12 **SECTION 2. The amendments to ORS 342.125 by section 1 of this 2025 Act apply to ap-**
13 **plications for a teaching license submitted to the Teacher Standards and Practices Commis-**
14 **sion under ORS 342.120 to 342.430 on or after July 1, 2025.**

15 **SECTION 3. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
16 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect**
17 **July 1, 2025.**

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