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SB-343 Designated subjects career technical education teaching credentials: waiver. (2025-2026)

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CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2025–2026 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 343

Introduced by Senator Grayson

February 12, 2025

An act to add Section 44260.15 to the Education Code, relating to teacher credentialing.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 343, as introduced, Grayson. Designated subjects career technical education teaching credentials: waiver.

Existing law requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to, among other things, establish standards for the issuance and renewal of credentials, certificates, and permits, as specified. Existing law imposes minimum requirements for a preliminary multiple subject, single subject, or education specialist teaching credential. Existing law specifies minimum requirements for the 3-year preliminary designated subjects career technical education teaching credential and the 5-year clear designated subjects career technical education teaching credential.

This bill would require the commission to grant a waiver from the minimum requirements for the 3-year preliminary designated subjects career technical education teaching credential and the 5-year clear designated subjects career technical education teaching credential to an individual meeting prescribed requirements, including, among other things, having a valid industry-recognized certification in a trade designated by the commission. The bill would require the commission to develop and maintain a list of designated trades eligible for the waiver, as provided.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 44260.15 is added to the Education Code, immediately following Section 44260.1, to read:

44260.15. (a) The commission shall grant a waiver from the minimum requirements prescribed in Sections 44260 and 44260.1 to an individual meeting all of the following requirements:

- (1) Possesses a valid industry-recognized certification in a trade designated by the commission pursuant to subdivision (b).

(2) Has a minimum of five years of documented work experience in a trade designated by the commission pursuant to subdivision (b).

(3) Successfully completes a commission-approved course on teaching and classroom management.

(b) The commission shall develop and maintain a list of designated trades eligible for a waiver pursuant to subdivision (a). The list of designated trades shall include, but is not limited to, general contracting, masonry, welding, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), electrical, auto and diesel repair, healthcare, and medical field trades. The commission shall consider the following factors when designating additional trades to include on the list:

(1) Whether the trade requires a high level of skill and knowledge.

(2) Whether there is a demonstrated shortage of qualified career technical education instructors in the trade.

(3) Whether the trade has established industry-recognized certification programs that include all of the following:

(A) A minimum of 4,000 hours of documented, supervised work experience in the trade.

(B) A comprehensive examination process covering both theoretical knowledge and practical skills.

(C) Ongoing professional development and continuing education requirements.

(D) A system for tracking and reporting work experience and continuing education to an industry-recognized certification body or state licensing board.

(c) The commission shall adopt regulations to implement this section.