

## HOUSE BILL NO. 230

INTRODUCED BY KOOPMAN, MCGILLVRAY, LANGE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO ALTERNATIVELY CERTIFY TEACHERS; ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION; ~~REQUIRING~~ ALLOWING THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION TO ISSUE A TEACHER CERTIFICATE TO A PERSON WHO IS ALTERNATIVELY CERTIFIED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Certification of teachers by school district trustees -- qualifications -- exemptions -- state certification.** (1) The trustees of a school district may adopt an alternative certification policy to allow a person who does not hold a teacher certificate issued by the superintendent of public instruction to teach in a school in the district. In order to be alternatively certified, a person shall:

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (a) pass an examination used to admit a person to a teacher education program to determine if the person's basic skills in reading, writing, and mathematics are sufficient to perform satisfactorily as a teacher; and~~  
~~\_\_\_\_\_ (b) complete a 1-year internship in a school in the district~~ MUST PASS A CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK AND BE OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER.

(2) The trustees' issuance of an alternative certificate ~~must~~ IS RECOMMENDED TO be based IN PART on an evaluation of:

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (a) the person's academic knowledge; IN THE SUBJECT AREA OR AREAS BEING TAUGHT AND~~  
~~\_\_\_\_\_ (b) the results of the examination required in subsection (1)(a);~~  
~~\_\_\_\_\_ (c) the person's ability to communicate information effectively to pupils; and~~  
~~\_\_\_\_\_ (d) the academic achievement of pupils taught by the person during the internship.~~

(3) The trustees shall report to the superintendent of public instruction all of the alternative certificates issued under this section.

(4) A person alternatively certified under this section is subject to all of the provisions of Title 20 relating to teachers except for the provisions of 20-4-103, 20-4-104, and 20-4-106.

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (5) The trustees may hire a teacher who has been alternatively certified by another school district under the provisions of this section.~~

~~(6)~~(5) After the 1-year internship TRIAL PERIOD, the trustees shall present MAY RECOMMEND the person to

the superintendent of public instruction for state certification. ~~The superintendent shall issue a teacher certificate to a person alternatively certified by the trustees under the provisions of this section~~ BASED ON THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF THE PUPILS TAUGHT BY THE PERSON DURING THAT FIRST YEAR.

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 20, chapter 4, part 1, and the provisions of Title 20, chapter 4, part 1, apply to [section 1].

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2007.

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