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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE CERTIFICATION OF PRINCIPALS AND VICE-PRINCIPALS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the department of  
2 education currently has requirements for the certification of  
3 its principals and vice-principals. The legislature also finds  
4 that the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009  
5 provides educational funds for states that pursue educational  
6 reform and additional funds for those states that qualify for  
7 Race to the Top funds by advancing educational reform. One of  
8 the selection criteria for the Race to the Top funds is  
9 providing alternative routes to certification for teachers and  
10 principals. Although Act 34, Session Laws of Hawaii 2010,  
11 amended section 302A-605, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to establish  
12 alternative routes to certification, the current requirement  
13 that a principal possess not less than five years of appropriate  
14 school-level experience, of which at least three years shall  
15 have been as a teacher, is too restrictive and conflicts with  
16 the Race to the Top grant requirements.



1           The purpose of this Act is to provide principal and vice-  
2 principal candidates alternate routes of certification that meet  
3 the federal Race to the Top requirements.

4           SECTION 2. Section 302A-605, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6           "**§302A-605 Principals and vice-principals.** (a)

7 Principals shall meet the department's certification  
8 requirements and shall have at least five years of appropriate  
9 school-level experience including at least three years as a  
10 teacher[-], or equivalent experience as determined by the  
11 department.

12           (b) Vice-principals shall meet the department's  
13 certification requirements and shall have appropriate school-  
14 level or equivalent experience, as determined by the department.

15           (c) The department shall establish alternative routes to  
16 certification for principals and vice-principals pursuant to  
17 rules adopted under chapter 91.

18           (d) For purposes of this section, "alternative routes to  
19 certification" has the same meaning as determined by United  
20 States Department of Education regulations for state  
21 applications for Race to the Top fund allocations under section



1 14001 of the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of  
2 2009, as amended."

3 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Relating to the Certification of Principals and Vice-Principals

**Description:**

Amends section 302A-605, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to replace language regarding principal and vice-principal candidate qualifications that conflicts with the requirements of the Race to the Top grant. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

