

# CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT FORM

Austin, Texas

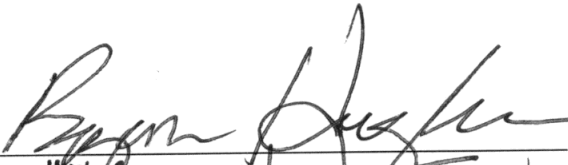
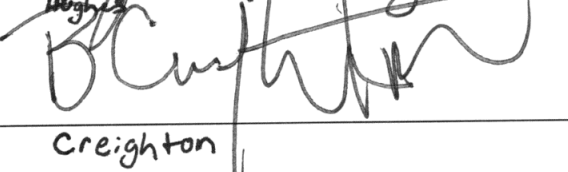
MAY 25, 2023  
Date

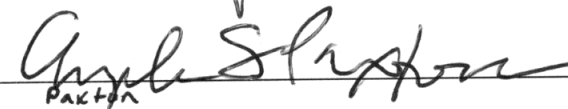
Honorable Dan Patrick  
President of the Senate

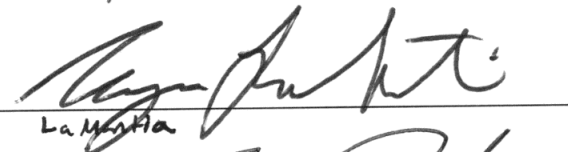
Honorable Dade Phelan  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

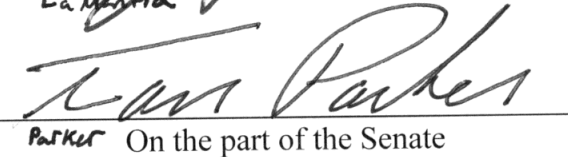
Sirs:

We, Your Conference Committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the Senate and the House of Representatives on HOUSE BILL 621 have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

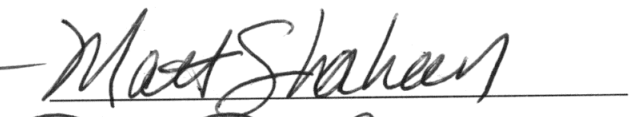
  
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*Hughes*  
  
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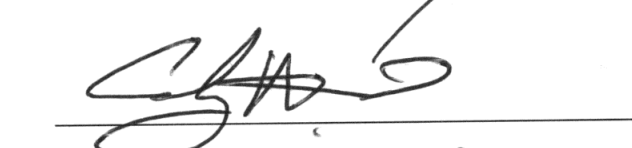
  
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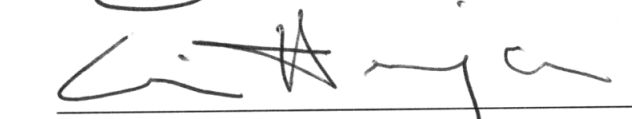
On the part of the Senate

  
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On the part of the House

### Note to Conference Committee Clerk:

Please type the names of the members of the Conference Committee under the lines provided for signature. Those members desiring to sign the report should sign each of the six copies. Attach a copy of the Conference Committee Report and a Section by Section side by side comparison to each of the six reporting forms. The original and two copies are filed in house of origin of the bill, and three copies in the other house.



# CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

3<sup>rd</sup> Printing

H.B. No. 621

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to creating a temporary certification to teach career and  
3 technology education for certain military service members and first  
4 responders.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 21, Education Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 21.0444 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 21.0444. TEMPORARY CERTIFICATION FOR CERTAIN MILITARY  
9 SERVICE MEMBERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS. (a) In this section, "first  
10 responder" means a person elected, employed, or appointed as:

11 (1) a peace officer as defined by Article 2.12, Code of  
12 Criminal Procedure;

13 (2) fire protection personnel as defined by Section  
14 419.021, Government Code; or

15 (3) emergency medical services personnel as defined by  
16 Section 773.003, Health and Safety Code.

17 (b) This section applies to a person seeking certification  
18 to teach career and technology education who:

19 (1) has served in the armed forces of the United States  
20 and was honorably discharged, retired, or released from active  
21 duty; or

22 (2) has served as a first responder and, while in good  
23 standing and not because of pending or final disciplinary actions  
24 or a documented performance problem, retired, resigned, or

1 separated from employment as a first responder.

2 (c) The board shall propose rules under this subchapter  
3 providing for the issuance of a temporary certificate to teach  
4 career and technology education to a person described by Subsection  
5 (b) who meets all other eligibility requirements for standard  
6 certification to teach career and technology education, except that  
7 the person may substitute for a requirement that the person hold:

8 (1) an associate degree from an accredited institution  
9 of higher education, 48 months of active duty military service or  
10 service as a first responder; or

11 (2) a bachelor's degree:

12 (A) the military service or service as a first  
13 responder described by Subdivision (1); and

14 (B) 60 semester credit hours completed at a  
15 public or private institution of higher education with a minimum  
16 grade point average of at least 2.50 on a four-point scale.

17 (d) Rules proposed by the board for a temporary certificate  
18 issued under this section must provide that the certificate is:

19 (1) valid for no more than three years;

20 (2) limited to a one-time issuance; and

21 (3) not subject to renewal.

22 (e) A person issued a temporary certificate under this  
23 section may be issued a standard certificate if the person  
24 completes all eligibility requirements required for that  
25 certification.

26 (f) A school district shall require a new employee who holds  
27 a temporary certificate issued under this section to obtain at

1 least 20 hours of classroom management training, unless the new  
2 employee has documented experience as an instructor or trainer  
3 during the employee's required 48 months of active duty military  
4 service or service as a first responder.

5 SECTION 2. Section 21.458, Education Code, is amended by  
6 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-2) to read as  
7 follows:

8 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (a-2), each ~~Each~~  
9 school district may assign a mentor teacher to each classroom  
10 teacher who has less than two years of teaching experience in the  
11 subject or grade level to which the teacher is assigned. A teacher  
12 assigned as a mentor must:

13 (1) to the extent practicable, teach in the same  
14 school;

15 (2) to the extent practicable, teach the same subject  
16 or grade level, as applicable; and

17 (3) meet the qualifications prescribed by  
18 commissioner rules adopted under Subsection (b).

19 (a-2) A school district shall assign a mentor teacher to a  
20 classroom teacher who has been issued a temporary certificate to  
21 teach career and technology education under Section 21.0444 for at  
22 least two school years.

23 SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
24 of this Act, the State Board for Educator Certification shall  
25 propose rules relating to temporary certificates to teach career  
26 and technology education for certain military service members and  
27 first responders as required by Section 21.0444, Education Code, as

H.B. No. 621

1 added by this Act.

2 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

**House Bill 621**  
Conference Committee Report  
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

SENATE VERSION (CS)

CONFERENCE

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 21, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 21.0444 to read as follows:  
Sec. 21.0444. TEMPORARY CERTIFICATION **TO TEACH CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION** FOR CERTAIN MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 21, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 21.0444 to read as follows:  
Sec. 21.0444. TEMPORARY CERTIFICATION FOR CERTAIN MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS **AND FIRST RESPONDERS.**

SECTION 1. Same as Senate version.

*No equivalent provision.*

(a) In this section, "first responder" means a person elected, employed, or appointed as:  
(1) a peace officer as defined by Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure;  
(2) fire protection personnel as defined by Section 419.021, Government Code; or  
(3) emergency medical services personnel as defined by Section 773.003, Health and Safety Code.

(a) Same as Senate version.

(a) This section applies to a person seeking certification **to teach career and technology education** who:  
(1) has served in the armed forces of the United States; and  
(2) was honorably discharged, retired, or released from active duty.

(b) This section applies to a person seeking certification who:  
(1) has served in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged, retired, or released from active duty; or  
(2) has served as a first responder and, while in good standing and not because of pending or final disciplinary actions or a documented performance problem, retired, resigned, or separated from employment as a first responder.

(b) This section applies to a person seeking certification **to teach career and technology education** who:  
(1) has served in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged, retired, or released from active duty; or  
(2) has served as a first responder and, while in good standing and not because of pending or final disciplinary actions or a documented performance problem, retired, resigned, or separated from employment as a first responder.

(b) The board shall propose rules under this subchapter providing for the issuance of a temporary certificate **to teach career and technology education** to a person described by Subsection (a) who meets all other eligibility requirements for standard certification **to teach career and technology**

(c) The board shall propose rules under this subchapter providing for the issuance of a temporary certificate to a person described by Subsection (b) who meets all other eligibility requirements for standard certification, except that the person may substitute for a requirement that the person hold:

(c) The board shall propose rules under this subchapter providing for the issuance of a temporary certificate **to teach career and technology education** to a person described by Subsection (b) who meets all other eligibility requirements for standard certification **to teach career and technology**

**House Bill 621**  
Conference Committee Report  
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

education, except that the person may substitute for a requirement that the person hold:

(1) an associate degree from an accredited institution of higher education, 48 months of active duty military service described by Subsection (a); or

(2) a bachelor's degree:

(A) the military service described by Subdivision (1); and

(B) 60 semester credit hours completed at a public or private institution of higher education with a minimum grade point average of at least 2.50 on a four-point scale.

(c) Rules proposed by the board for a temporary certificate issued under this section must provide that the certificate is:

(1) valid for no more than three years;

(2) limited to a one-time issuance; and

(3) not subject to renewal.

(d) A person issued a temporary certificate under this section may be issued a standard certificate if the person completes all eligibility requirements required for that certification.

(e) A school district shall require a new employee who holds a temporary certificate issued under this section to obtain at least 20 hours of classroom management training, unless the new employee has documented experience as an instructor or trainer during the employee's required 48 months of active duty military service.

SENATE VERSION (CS)

(1) an associate degree from an accredited institution of higher education, 48 months of active duty military service or service as a first responder; or

(2) a bachelor's degree:

(A) the military service or service as a first responder described by Subdivision (1); and

(B) 60 semester credit hours completed at a public or private institution of higher education with a minimum grade point average of at least 2.50 on a four-point scale.

(d) Same as House version.

(e) Same as House version.

(f) A school district shall require a new employee who holds a temporary certificate issued under this section to obtain at least 20 hours of classroom management training, unless the new employee has documented experience as an instructor or trainer during the employee's required 48 months of active duty military service or service as a first responder.

CONFERENCE

education, except that the person may substitute for a requirement that the person hold:

(1) an associate degree from an accredited institution of higher education, 48 months of active duty military service or service as a first responder; or

(2) a bachelor's degree:

(A) the military service or service as a first responder described by Subdivision (1); and

(B) 60 semester credit hours completed at a public or private institution of higher education with a minimum grade point average of at least 2.50 on a four-point scale.

(d) Same as House version.

(e) Same as House version.

(f) Same as Senate version.



**House Bill 621**  
Conference Committee Report  
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

SECTION 2. Section 21.458, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-2) to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (a-2), each ~~Each~~ school district may assign a mentor teacher to each classroom teacher who has less than two years of teaching experience in the subject or grade level to which the teacher is assigned. A teacher assigned as a mentor must:

- (1) to the extent practicable, teach in the same school;
- (2) to the extent practicable, teach the same subject or grade level, as applicable; and
- (3) meet the qualifications prescribed by commissioner rules adopted under Subsection (b).

(a-2) A school district shall assign a mentor teacher to a classroom teacher who has been issued a temporary certificate *to teach career and technology education* under Section 21.0444 for at least two school years.

SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the State Board for Educator Certification shall propose rules relating to temporary certificates *to teach career and technology education* for certain military service members as required by Section 21.0444, Education Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 4. Effective date.

SENATE VERSION (CS)

SECTION 2. Section 21.458, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-2) to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (a-2), each ~~Each~~ school district may assign a mentor teacher to each classroom teacher who has less than two years of teaching experience in the subject or grade level to which the teacher is assigned. A teacher assigned as a mentor must:

- (1) to the extent practicable, teach in the same school;
- (2) to the extent practicable, teach the same subject or grade level, as applicable; and
- (3) meet the qualifications prescribed by commissioner rules adopted under Subsection (b).

(a-2) A school district shall assign a mentor teacher to a classroom teacher who has been issued a temporary certificate under Section 21.0444 for at least two school years.

SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the State Board for Educator Certification shall propose rules relating to temporary *educator* certificates for certain military service members *and first responders* as required by Section 21.0444, Education Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 4. Same as House version.

CONFERENCE

SECTION 2. Same as House version.

SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the State Board for Educator Certification shall propose rules relating to temporary certificates *to teach career and technology education* for certain military service members *and first responders* as required by Section 21.0444, Education Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 4. Same as House version.

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 88TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 27, 2023**

**TO:** Honorable Dan Patrick, Lieutenant Governor, Senate  
Honorable Dade Phelan, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

**FROM:** Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE:** **HB621** by Shaheen (relating to creating a temporary certification to teach career and technology education for certain military service members and first responders.), **Conference Committee Report**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

It is assumed that any costs associated with the bill could be absorbed using existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 701 Texas Education Agency

**LBB Staff:** JMc, AF