

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to educator certification requirements;
 3 amending s. 1012.56, F.S.; requiring subject area
 4 examinations in specified foreign languages for the
 5 purpose of demonstrating mastery of that subject area
 6 knowledge; providing an effective date.

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 8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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10 Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 1012.56, Florida
 11 Statutes, is amended to read:

12 1012.56 Educator certification requirements.--

13 (4) MASTERY OF SUBJECT AREA KNOWLEDGE.--Acceptable means
 14 of demonstrating mastery of subject area knowledge are:

15 (a) Achievement of passing scores on subject area
 16 examinations required by state board rule, such subject area
 17 examinations to include foreign language examinations in
 18 Spanish, French, German, Latin, Hebrew, Italian, and Chinese;

19 (b) Completion of the subject area specialization
 20 requirements specified in state board rule and verification of
 21 the attainment of the essential subject matter competencies by
 22 the district school superintendent of the employing school
 23 district or chief administrative officer of the employing state-
 24 supported or private school for a subject area for which a
 25 subject area examination has not been developed and required by
 26 state board rule;

27 (c) Completion of the subject area specialization
 28 requirements specified in state board rule for a subject

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29 coverage requiring a master's or higher degree and achievement
30 of a passing score on the subject area examination specified in
31 state board rule;

32 (d) A valid professional standard teaching certificate
33 issued by another state; or

34 (e) A valid certificate issued by the National Board for
35 Professional Teaching Standards or a national educator
36 credentialing board approved by the State Board of Education.

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38 School districts are encouraged to provide mechanisms for those
39 middle school teachers holding only a K-6 teaching certificate
40 to obtain a subject area coverage for middle grades through
41 postsecondary coursework or district add-on certification.

42 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.