

2023 SENATE EDUCATION

SB 2070

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee
Room JW216, State Capitol

SB 2070
1/11/2023

Relating to criteria for teacher permits; provide an expiration date.

10:00 AM Chairman Elkin opened the hearing. Present: Chairman Elkin, Vice Chairman Beard, Senator Axtman, Senator Conley, Senator Lemm, and Senator Wobbema.

Discussion Topics:

- Stop-gap
- Temporary fix
- Sunset
- Management reports
- Teacher shortage

10:01 AM Senator Rust, District 2, introduced the bill and testified in support. #12811

10:08 AM Rebecca Pitkin, Executive Director of Education Standards and Practices Board, testified in support. #12806

10:22 AM Dr. Aimee Copas, Executive Director ND Council of Educational Leaders (NDCEL), testified in support. #12614

Alexis Baxly, ND School Boards Association, verbally testified in support.

Additional written testimony:

Michael McNeff, Supt Rugby Public School, in support. #12773

10:20 AM Chairman Elkin closed the hearing.

Pam Dever, Committee Clerk

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee
Room JW216, State Capitol

SB 2070
1/17/2023

Relating to criteria for teacher permits; and to provide an expiration date.
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2:00 PM Chairman Elkin opened the meeting.

Present: Chairman Elkin, Vice Chair Beard, Senator Axtman, Senator Conley, Senator Lemm, and Senator Wobbema.

Discussion Topics:

- Special teacher permits
- Timeline
- Education program
- Declaration of commitment

2:01 PM Senator Wobbema verbally explained amendment. – extend timeline to six years from passage of this bill to complete Degree. Legislative Council had not gotten the amendment back to him yet. (no written testimony)

2:05 PM Rebecca Pitman, ND Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB), answered questions and provided information verbally.

2:13 PM Chairman Elkin closed meeting.

Pam Dever, Committee Clerk

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee
Room JW216, State Capitol

SB 2070
1/23/2023

Relating to criteria for teacher permits; and to provide an expiration date.

2:43 PM Chairman Elkin opened the meeting.

Present: Chairman Elkin, Senator Axtman, Senator Conley, and Senator Lemm, and Sen Wobbema. Sen Beard was absent.

Discussion Topics:

- Committee action
- Amendment

Rebecca Pitkin commented on amendment 23.0364.01002 per Chair Elkin request to clarify.

Sen Axtman moved a DO PASS on amendment 23.0364.01002. Sen Lemm seconded.

Senators	Vote
Senator Jay Elkin	Y
Senator Todd Beard	AB
Senator Michelle Axtman	Y
Senator Cole Conley	Y
Senator Randy D. Lemm	Y
Senator Michael A. Wobbema	Y

VOTE: YES 5 NO 0 Absent 1

Motion PASSED

Sen Axtmen moved a DO PASS as Amended.

Sen Lemm seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Jay Elkin	Y
Senator Todd Beard	AB
Senator Michelle Axtman	Y
Senator Cole Conley	Y
Senator Randy D. Lemm	Y
Senator Michael A. Wobbema	Y

VOTE: YES 5 NO 0 Absent 1

Motion PASSED

Sen Axtman will carry the bill.

3:10 PM Chair Elkin closed the meeting.

Pam Dever, Committee Clerk

January 23, 2023

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2070

Page 2, line 17, replace "three" with "four"

Page 2, line 18, replace "six" with "seven"

Renumber accordingly

OR
121
1/23/2023

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2070: Education Committee (Sen. Elkin, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2070 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar. This bill affects workforce development.

Page 2, line 17, replace "three" with "four"

Page 2, line 18, replace "six" with "seven"

Renumber accordingly

2023 HOUSE EDUCATION

SB 2070

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee
Coteau AB Room, State Capitol

SB 2070
3/1/2023

Relating to criteria for teacher permits; and to provide an expiration date.

2:23 PM

Chairman Heinert opened the hearing. Members present: Chairman Heinert, Vice Chairman Schreiber-Beck, Representatives Conmy, Dyk, Hager, Hauck, Heilman, Hoverson, Jonas, Longmuir, Marschall, Murphy, Novak, and Timmons.

Discussion Topics:

- Teaching permits
- Community expert
- Qualified teachers
- Alternate access license
- Survey responses
- Teachers' retirement

Sen David Rust, District 2, introduced SB 2070, Testimony 21602
Mari Riehl, Education Standards and Practice Board, Testimony 21275

2:36 PM Chairman Heinert closed the hearing.

Kathleen Davis, Committee Clerk

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee
Coteau AB Room, State Capitol

SB 2070
3/14/2023

Relating to criteria for teacher permits; and to provide an expiration date.
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4:21 PM

Chairman Heinert opened the meeting. Members present: Chairman Heinert, Vice Chairman Schreiber-Beck, Representatives Conmy, Dyk, Hager, Hauck, Heilman, Hoverson, Jonas, Longmuir, Marschall, Murphy, Novak, and Timmons.

Discussion Topics:

- Committee action

Rep Hoverson moved a Do Pass, seconded by Rep Marschall.

Representatives	Vote
Representative Pat D. Heinert	Y
Representative Cynthia Schreiber-Beck	AB
Representative Liz Conmy	Y
Representative Scott Dyk	Y
Representative LaurieBeth Hager	AB
Representative Dori Hauck	Y
Representative Matt Heilman	Y
Representative Jeff A. Hoverson	Y
Representative Jim Jonas	Y
Representative Donald W. Longmuir	Y
Representative Andrew Marschall	Y
Representative Eric James Murphy	Y
Representative Anna S. Novak	AB
Representative Kelby Timmons	Y

11-0-3 Motion carried. Rep Hoverson is carrier.

4:23 PM Meeting adjourned.

Kathleen Davis, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2070, as engrossed: Education Committee (Rep. Heinert, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (11 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 3 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed SB 2070 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

TESTIMONY

SB 2070



1 SB 2070

2 Testimony in Support

3 Chairman Elkin and members of the Senate Education Committee – my name is Aimee Copas and
4 I am here representing NDCEL and our school leaders around the state in support of SB 2070

5 This bill makes some adjustments to the timeline and permissiveness regarding what the field calls
6 “Community Experts”. The reality is in today’s workforce, education is experiencing shortages in
7 all areas which is common among all employers in our workforce. There are many instances when
8 advertised teaching positions do not even receive a qualified licensed applicant for several years.
9 However, often we have wonderful people in our communities who have a high level of skills and
10 can fill a role in our schools as a teacher, their one detractor is that their area of expertise is not
11 accompanied with a degree in education.

12 The extension in the timeline offered in this bill enables the current community experts to keep
13 their jobs for another additional time to serve the school. The bill also includes wise parameters
14 wherein if they wish to maintain this employment for a longer term, they must then pursue that
15 plan of study in education.

16 We are appreciative of ESPB and the work they do to assist the field and to understand how
17 beneficial these alternative pathways to education are to our communities.

18 We encourage you to consider this information as you consider this bill.

19

1 SB2070

2 Testimony in Support

3

4 Chairman Elkin and members of the Senate Education Committee. For the record my name is Dr.
5 Michael McNeff – I serve as the superintendent of schools in Rugby, ND. I come to you today to
6 provide some feedback on SB 2070, a bill related to teaching permits. I and many other
7 superintendents have taken advantage of 15.1-18-10 of the North Dakota Century Code. I am in
8 support of the changes made within SB 2070. We have found success in filling classrooms with
9 quality individuals that may lack the proper licensure to teach in North Dakota. This part of Code
10 is set to sunset later this year on July 31, 2023.

11

12 I hope to provide some examples of why I feel this legislation is needed going forward. First and
13 foremost, we have been able to maintain a quality art program at Rugby High School. Over the
14 past three years, we have used alternate ways to maintain this program. We hired an excellent
15 teacher that had a higher education background in the arts and through some recent legislative
16 changes he was able to obtain licensure. We were able to keep that person for two years and he
17 retired last year. We spent most of the spring and summer looking for an art teacher. Fortunately,
18 we were able to look internally and promoted a paraeducator that will finish up his art illustration
19 degree soon. This person was able to obtain a permit due to his vast background in art and he
20 qualified due to his 4,000 hours of documented work in the art field. He has all of the intangibles
21 and what it takes to be an effective teacher without the traditional background. This opportunity
22 has now encouraged him to seek a career in education. He will be completing his bachelor's in art
23 illustration and he is interested in entering a master's program in art education.

24

25 Expanding the sunset clause to 2031 and providing additional time to enroll and complete a
26 traditional teaching program is a great way to get people into the field and keep them there.
27 There are plenty of nontraditional people that would make excellent teachers. SB 2070 provides
28 flexibility while still maintaining high standards. Without this additional flexibility, we would not have
29 been able to provide an art program for our 300 students at Rugby High School.

30

31 Please issue a DO PASS on SB 2070.



2718 Gateway Avenue, Suite 204
Bismarck, ND 58503
Phone: 701-328-9641 • www.nd.gov/espb

Testimony SB 2070
Senate Education Committee
January 10, 2023; 10:00 A.M.
Education Standards and Practice Board
Dr. Rebecca Pitkin

Good morning, Chairman Elkin, and members of the Senate Education Committee. My name is Rebecca Pitkin, and I am the Executive Director of the Education Standards and Practices Board. I am here today in support of SB 2070 and to provide information about the permit bill which became law during the 66th legislative session (HB 1531). Most of the language in SB 2070 is the same, and the bill allows individuals without a 4-year degree, who have expertise in certain content areas, excluding the areas in line 21, to be the teacher of record per district request showing individuals have the qualifications on page 2, lines 1-6. The intent of the original bill was to provide relief for the teacher shortage in non-core areas until July 2023, and during that time to collect feedback on the bill's success, impact on the teacher shortage, and its ability to motivate some individuals to enter the field of teaching as a regularly trained teacher. The original bill has been in effect for 4 years. This year there have been more permits issued to new candidates than year two and three combined.

Attached to this testimony is a list of individuals who have received a permit and it is evident there are a variety of content areas represented. Students were able to have classes they may not otherwise been able to given a districts inability to find a teacher. A total of 46 positions have been filled because of this opportunity.

The following information details the outcomes of permit holders during the first three years of the original bill:

1. 35% of year 1, 2, and 3 individuals are still on a permit license

2. 24% of Permit holders have become licensed regularly
3. 24% are no longer licensed
4. 10% moved to a sub license to continue involvement in schools but could no longer hold a permit.
5. 7% of individuals ran out of time, having used the 3-year allowed by law

Qualitative comments gathered the past 4 years have provided information on the strengths of those with a permit including: knowledge of the content, positive relationships with students, ability to bring the outside world into the classroom, experience in their field, excellent work ethic, internal motivation, they are members of the community members where they now teach, and some were previously a paraprofessional in the building. Reported challenges include classroom management, managing time within a class period, and lesson planning. For this reason, line 5 on page 2 requires individuals with a permit to enroll in the Teacher Support System mentoring program so they can receive support in needed areas.

Survey responses collected in March 2022 provided evidence administrators who employed individuals with a permit recommended continuation of this bill in some format to allow a permit as a solution to the shortage. Section 6 of SB 2070 states individuals who are not enrolled in a teacher education program have a maximum of 3 years on a permit; those who enroll in a teacher education program can remain on a permit up to six years to complete their teacher education degree.

The ESPB board supports HB 2070 and the changes proposed are those developed by a subcommittee of our board. This concludes my testimony, and I will gladly answer any questions.

ALL Teaching Permits issued between July 1, 2019 and January 5, 2023

Full Name	License Number	Effective Date	Expiration Date	Major Minor Description	Qualification	State	Degree	Level of Preparation
Anthony Macha	999000015	08/04/2022	08/04/2023	Music	Teaching Permit	TX	Bachelor's	K-12
Anthony Morris	999000008	09/01/2020	09/01/2021	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
Anthony Morris	999000008	07/20/2021	09/01/2022	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
Anthony Morris	999000008	08/16/2022	09/01/2023	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
Austin Monson	432134	12/21/2021	08/22/2022	Business Ed/General Business	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	K-12
Christina Winslow	428405	08/20/2020	08/20/2021	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
Clarence Arnold	999000006	01/13/2020	01/13/2021	Agriculture Education	Teaching Permit	MT	Less/BA	5-12
Dakota Hoyt	426238	08/12/2021	08/12/2022	Physical Education	Teaching Permit	MN	Bachelor's	K-12
Dakota Hoyt	426238	08/31/2022	08/31/2023	Physical Education	Teaching Permit	MN	Bachelor's	K-12
Daniel Ryba	999000003	09/04/2019	09/04/2020		Teaching Permit			
Daniel Ryba	999000003	07/26/2020	09/04/2021		Teaching Permit			
Daniel Ryba	999000003	09/07/2021	09/07/2022		Teaching Permit			
Daniel Starks	999000007	08/12/2020	08/12/2021	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
Daniel Starks	999000007	08/17/2021	08/17/2022	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
Daniel Starks	999000007	08/11/2022	08/17/2023	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
David Perry	423707	08/29/2019	08/29/2020	T&I Construction Technology I & II	Teaching Permit	NE	Bachelor's	10-12
David Perry	423707	09/01/2020	09/01/2021	T&I Construction Technology I & II	Teaching Permit	NE	Bachelor's	10-12
DEBORAH PETERSON	999000001	08/13/2019	08/13/2020	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
DEBORAH PETERSON	999000001	07/26/2020	08/13/2021	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
DEBORAH PETERSON	999000001	07/19/2021	08/13/2022	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
Devi Engelstad	422440	09/13/2021	09/13/2022	Business Ed/General Business	Teaching Permit	AZ	Bachelor's	5-12
Devi Engelstad	422440	08/13/2022	09/13/2023	Business Ed/General Business	Teaching Permit	AZ	Bachelor's	5-12
Elizabeth Schimelfenig	432526	08/03/2022	08/03/2023	Family and Consumer Sciences	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	5-12
Emily Black-Driscoll	426813	09/01/2020	09/01/2021		Teaching Permit			
Garrett Dockter	999000005	10/28/2019	10/28/2020	T & I Welding Technology	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	9-12
Garrett Loehr	999000011	08/12/2021	08/10/2022	World Languages: Spanish	Teaching Permit	MO	Bachelor's	K-12
Garrett Loehr	999000011	08/13/2022	08/13/2023	World Languages: Spanish	Teaching Permit	MO	Bachelor's	K-12
Hayley Flagstad	999000013	10/04/2021	08/31/2022	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
Jadyn Callenius	999000012	08/19/2021	08/19/2022	Family and Consumer Sciences	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	5-12
Jennifer Teruel	421017	08/03/2022	08/03/2023	Art	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
Jhufel Querikiol	429488	08/12/2021	08/12/2022	Art	Teaching Permit		Bachelor's	K-12
Jhufel Querikiol	429488	08/08/2022	08/12/2023	Art	Teaching Permit		Bachelor's	K-12
John Gourneau	431708	08/13/2022	08/13/2023	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	K-12
Jonathan Skipper	430913	08/09/2022	08/09/2023	Art	Teaching Permit		Less/BA	K-12
Jordan Foster	999000009	08/25/2020	08/25/2021	Physical Education	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	K-12
Jordan Foster	999000009	07/22/2021	08/25/2022	Physical Education	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	K-12
Jordan Foster	999000009	07/23/2022	08/25/2023	Physical Education	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	K-12
Jordan Ralph	425334	08/18/2022	08/18/2023	Physical Education	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
Karen Heinzen	424420	10/23/2019	10/23/2020	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	K-12

Karen Heinzen	424420	08/12/2021	08/12/2022	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	K-12
Karen Heinzen	424420	08/04/2022	08/12/2023	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	K-12
Kari Dohrmann	422679	08/03/2022	08/03/2023	Business Ed/General Business	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	5-12
Kari Dohrmann	422679	08/03/2022	08/03/2023	Marketing Education	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	5-12
Kathryn Ring	420455	08/14/2022	08/14/2023	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	K-12
Kenben Parker	433539	09/30/2022	09/30/2023	Physical Education	Teaching Permit	MN	Less/BA	K-12
Kristin Schlenske	999000017	08/26/2022	08/26/2023	Music	Teaching Permit	UT	Less/BA	K-12
Lex Lunde	417914	10/30/2019	10/30/2020	World Languages: Spanish	Teaching Permit	MN	Bachelor's	K-12
Lolita Davis	432331	11/29/2021	11/29/2022	Business Ed/General Business	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	5-12
Lorena Haugen	999000010	08/06/2021	08/06/2022	World Languages: Spanish	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
Lorena Haugen	999000010	07/31/2022	08/06/2023	World Languages: Spanish	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
Lori Wagner	418305	09/16/2019	09/10/2020		Teaching Permit			
Lori Wagner	418305	06/16/2020	09/10/2021		Teaching Permit			
Lori Wagner	418305	09/12/2021	09/10/2022		Teaching Permit			
Mackenzie Buckmier	999000016	08/13/2022	08/13/2023	Agriculture Education	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	5-12
MARY WAHL	432294	08/29/2022	08/29/2023	Music	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	K-12
Mason Swegarden	428442	09/20/2019	09/20/2020		Teaching Permit			
Mason Swegarden	428442	08/06/2020	09/20/2021		Teaching Permit			
Mason Swegarden	428442	08/18/2021	09/11/2022		Teaching Permit			
Megan Muse	426502	08/29/2019	08/29/2020	Family and Consumer Sciences	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	5-12
Megan Muse	426502	07/31/2020	08/29/2021	Family and Consumer Sciences	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	5-12
Megan Muse	426502	09/12/2021	09/12/2022	Family and Consumer Sciences	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	5-12
Melanie Su-Lin Tschider	425572	08/26/2022	08/26/2023	Business Ed/General Business	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	5-12
Meriel Lora	425128	11/23/2020	11/23/2021	Music	Teaching Permit	WA	Bachelor's	K-12
Meriel Lora	425128	10/07/2021	11/23/2022	Music	Teaching Permit	WA	Bachelor's	K-12
Nicole Sott	430576	08/18/2022	08/18/2023	Family and Consumer Sciences	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	5-12
Paul Kosienski	999000002	09/30/2019	09/30/2020	Agriculture Education	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	5-12
Paul Kosienski	999000002	06/16/2020	09/30/2021	Agriculture Education	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	5-12
Rosa Martire	999000018	08/18/2022	08/18/2023	World Languages: Spanish	Teaching Permit		Bachelor's	K-12
Savanah Meyer	999000014	08/03/2022	08/03/2023	Physical Education	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	K-12
Shaeli Ekstein	428409	10/08/2019	10/08/2020	Business Ed/General Business	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	5-12
Shellann Munson	418214	08/19/2020	08/19/2021		Teaching Permit			
Susan Braun	999000004	09/23/2019	09/23/2020		Teaching Permit			
Susan Braun	999000004	05/07/2020	09/23/2021		Teaching Permit			
Terry Jelsing	62648	08/03/2020	08/03/2021	Art	Teaching Permit	NM	Master's Degree	K-12
Terry Jelsing	62648	07/25/2021	08/03/2022	Art	Teaching Permit	NM	Master's Degree	K-12
Wayne Parisien	58476	09/04/2019	09/04/2020	T & I Welding Technology	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	9-12
Wayne Parisien	58476	08/31/2020	06/24/2021	T & I Welding Technology	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	9-12
Wesley Jacobson	432460	08/13/2022	08/13/2023	Physical Education	Teaching Permit	ND	Less/BA	K-12
Zachary Wald	428461	08/12/2021	08/12/2022	Latin	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	K-12
Zachary Wald	428461	08/17/2022	08/17/2023	Latin	Teaching Permit	ND	Bachelor's	K-12

Total Issued = 80

Chairman Elkin, Vice-Chairman Beard and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

For the record I am Senator David Rust of District 2. I'm here to introduce SB 2070.

During the 2019 Legislative Session HB 1351 was passed that created a teaching "permit." It was the first time such a term was used in licensing or certifying teachers. And, it was to be issued in only non-core teaching areas.

Its intent was to give school boards the option to hire a "community expert" to teach if a qualified teacher couldn't be obtained.

HB 1351 was a stop-gap bill allowing a school board to hire someone for one year, up to a maximum of 3 years, if certain conditions were met.

It was never intended to be a permanent solution, and for good reason—students deserve to be taught by qualified, certified teachers. One of the fears of the passage of HB 1351 was that the quality of education and the resulting knowledge students would receive would be significantly diminished with this option.

A number of school districts have used teaching permits to temporarily fill a vacant teaching position. However, per the provisions of the bill, 15.1-18-10 sunsets on July 31, 2023.

SB 2070 does the following:

1. Extends the sunset to July 31, 2031. (See p. 1 line 7 and p. 2 line 22)
2. Adds a pathway for those who want to teach after those first three years. Those wishing to continue in the teaching

profession may need more time to complete their teaching degree. Hence, P. 1 lines 16-18 adds the provision that “the board of a school district may authorize the individual to teach for an additional three years, up to a maximum of six years, if the individual also is enrolled in a teacher education program.”

I’ve asked Dr. Pitkin of the ESPB to come here today to provide you with information on the individuals and schools who have utilized teaching permits, to explain the bill further and to answer any questions you may have.

That concludes my testimony. I’ll remain for a bit to answer any questions you may have.

Mr. Chairman.



2718 Gateway Avenue, Suite 204
Bismarck, ND 58503
Phone: 701-328-9641 • www.nd.gov/esp

Testimony SB 2070
House Education Committee
March 1, 2023; 10:00 A.M.
Education Standards and Practice Board
Mari Riehl

Good afternoon, Chairman Heinert, and members of the Senate Education Committee. My name is Mari Riehl, and I am the Assistant Director of the Education Standards and Practices Board. I am here today to testify our board's support of SB 2070 and to provide information about the permit bill which became law during the 66th legislative session (HB 1531). Most of the language in SB 2070 is the same, and the bill allows individuals without a 4-year degree, who have expertise in certain content areas, excluding the areas on page 1, line 21, to be the teacher of record per district request showing individuals have the qualifications on page 2, lines 1-6.

The intent of the original bill was to provide relief for the teacher shortage in non-core areas until July 2023, and during that time to collect feedback on the bill's success, impact on the teacher shortage, and its ability to motivate some individuals to enter the field of teaching as a regularly trained teacher. The original bill has been in effect for 4 years. This year there have been more permits issued to new candidates than year two and three combined.

Attached to this testimony is a list of individuals who have received a permit and it is evident there are a variety of content areas represented. Students were able to have classes they may not otherwise been able to, given a district's inability to find a teacher. A total of 46 positions have been filled because of this opportunity.

The following information details the outcomes of permit holders during the first three years of the original bill:

1. 35% of year 1, 2, and 3 individuals are still on a permit license
2. 24% of permit holders have become licensed regularly

3. 24% are no longer licensed
4. 10% moved to a sub license to continue involvement in schools but could no longer hold a permit.
5. 7% of individuals ran out of time, having used the 3-year allowed by law

Qualitative comments gathered the past 4 years have provided information on the strengths of those with a permit including: knowledge of the content, positive relationships with students, ability to bring the outside world into the classroom, experience in their field, excellent work ethic, internal motivation, they are members of the community members where they now teach, and some were previously a paraprofessional in the building. Reported challenges include: classroom management, managing time within a class period, and lesson planning. For this reason, page 2 on line 5 requires individuals with a permit to enroll in the Teacher Support System first year teacher mentoring program to receive support in needed areas.

Survey responses collected in March 2022 provided evidence administrators who employed individuals with a permit recommend continuation of this bill in some format to allow a permit as a solution to the shortage. Section 6 of SB 2070 states individuals who are not enrolled in a teacher education program have a maximum of 3 years on a permit; those who enroll in a teacher education program can remain on a permit up to seven years to complete their teacher education degree.

The ESPB board supports HB 2070 and the changes proposed are those developed by a subcommittee of our board, as well as amendment by the Senate Education Committee. This concludes my testimony, and I will gladly answer any questions.

SB 2070
Introduction to House Education Committee
David S. Rust, Senator District 2

Chairman Heinert, Vice-Chairman Schreiber-Beck and Members of the House Education Committee:

For the record I am Senator David Rust of District 2. I'm here to introduce SB 2070.

During the 2019 Legislative Session HB 1351 was passed that created a teaching "permit." It was the first time such a term was used in licensing or certifying teachers. And, it was to be issued in only non-core teaching areas.

Its intent was to give school boards the option to hire a "community expert" to teach if a qualified teacher couldn't be obtained.

HB 1351 was a stop-gap bill allowing a school board to hire someone for one year, up to a maximum of three years, if certain conditions were met.

It was never intended to be a permanent solution, and for good reason—students deserve to be taught by qualified, certified teachers. One of the fears of the passage of HB 1351 was that the quality of education and the resulting knowledge students would receive would be significantly diminished with this option.

A number of school districts have used teaching permits to temporarily fill a vacant teaching position. However, per the provisions of the bill, 15.1-18-10 sunsets on July 31, 2023.

SB 2070 does the following:

1. Extends the sunset to July 31, 2031. (See p. 1 line 7 and p. 2 line 22)
2. Adds a pathway for those who want to teach after those first four years. Those wishing to continue in the teaching profession may need more time to complete their teaching degree. Hence, P. 2 lines 16-18 adds the provision that “the board of a school district may authorize the individual to teach for an additional four years, up to a maximum seven years, if the individual also is enrolled in a teacher education program.”

I've asked Dr. Pitkin of the ESPB to come here today to provide you with information on the individuals and schools who have utilized teaching permits, to explain the bill further and to answer any questions you may have.

The bill has been a success as we already have individuals who have obtained a degree and are contracted to teach; we have individuals with a teaching permit who are in a program to become a teacher, and those who are in their first year.

It is definitely an option for school districts that are unable to presently fill a vacant position, giving them time to either find a qualified teacher or possibly have one for the future.

That concludes my testimony. I'll remain for a bit to answer any questions you may have.

Mr. Chairman.