

House Bill 164 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Martin of the 49th and Casas of the 107th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-200 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 regulation of certificated professional personnel by the Professional Standards Commission,
3 so as to extend the suspension of professional learning requirements for certification renewal;
4 to extend the timeline for revision of certification renewal rules for purposes of conformity;
5 to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 20-2-200 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the regulation
9 of certificated professional personnel by the Professional Standards Commission, is amended
10 by revising paragraphs (4) and (4.1) of subsection (b) as follows:

11 "(4) Requirements for certification renewal shall be established to foster ongoing
12 professional learning, enhance student achievement, and verify standards of ethical
13 conduct; provided, however, that from July 1, 2010, through ~~July 1, 2015~~ June 30, 2017,
14 no professional learning requirements shall be required for certificate renewal for clear
15 renewable certificates for certificated personnel or for certificate renewal for
16 paraprofessionals. Such requirements may include, but are not limited to, professional
17 learning related to school improvement plans or the applicant's field of certification and
18 background checks. Should the Professional Standards Commission include a
19 requirement to demonstrate computer skill competency, the rules and regulations shall
20 provide that a certificated educator may elect to meet the requirement by receiving
21 satisfactory results on a test in basic computer skill competency. If a certificated educator
22 elects to take such test pursuant to this paragraph, the local school system by which such
23 educator is employed shall make available the opportunity to take the test on site at the
24 school in which the educator is assigned. Each principal shall identify an administrator
25 on site at each school to serve as a proctor for individuals taking the test pursuant to this
26 paragraph. Individuals holding a valid Georgia life certificate or a valid National Board

27 for Professional Teaching Standards certificate shall be deemed to have met state renewal
28 requirements except those related to background checks.

29 (4.1) Prior to July 1, ~~2015~~ 2017, the Professional Standards Commission shall revise its
30 certification renewal rules established pursuant to paragraph (4) of this subsection, to
31 require demonstration of the impact of professional learning on educator performance and
32 student learning for purposes of certification renewal. Such revised rules shall be
33 effective beginning July 1, ~~2015~~ 2017. As part of the revision process, the Professional
34 Standards Commission shall establish a task force to determine the level of evidence
35 necessary for educators to demonstrate the impact of professional learning and how such
36 evidence will be collected and submitted for purposes of certificate renewal."

37 **SECTION 2.**

38 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.