

Senate Education Committee

Ryan Meleedy 271-4151

HB 440, relative to educator licensing.

Hearing Date: March 25, 2025

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Ward, Sullivan, Abbas, Prentiss and Altschiller

Members of the Committee Absent : None

Bill Analysis: This bill requires the department to adopt rules requiring candidates for initial administrator, teacher, instructional specialist, or educational specialist licenses to obtain passing scores on prescribed professional assessments.

Sponsors:

Rep. Cordelli

Rep. Drye

Rep. Moffett

Rep. Noble

Who supports the bill: Eric Pauer.

Who opposes the bill: Senator Debra Altschiller, Debrah Howes (American Federation of Teachers New Hampshire), Jane Smith, Lois Cote, Alecia Magnifico, Meghan McClure.

Who is neutral on the bill: No one signed in neutrality to this bill.

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Representative Cordelli

- Representative Cordelli introduced House Bill 440.
- Representative Cordelli explained that the bill originated based on conversations with the Department of Education, and he reminded the committee that it passed in the House and was included on the consent calendar.
- Representative Cordelli established that the applicable statute in this bill is the duty of the State Board of Education, which states that the board adopts rules to examine the qualifications of teacher applicants and issue certificates.
- Representative Cordelli stated that this bill specifies the rules for the initial educator license, requiring a passing score on educator assessments determined by the State Board of Education. The bill also specifies exemptions from other

educator assessments for carer and technical educators if they pass a basic skills test or have an industry certification.

- Senator Ward asked for confirmation that educators must still receive a passing score on the professional assessments. Representative Cordelli confirmed and highlighted that it is up to the State Board to determine which assessments are utilized.