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H.79

Introduced by Representative Townsend of South Burlington

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Education; professional educators; licensing; African American
history

Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to require each applicant seeking to
obtain or renew a license to teach in a public elementary or secondary school
in Vermont to have completed at least one three-credit course in African
American history at an accredited college or university, covering the period
from the European colonization of North America through the end of the
20th century.

An act relating to requiring postsecondary credits in African American
history as a condition of teacher licensing

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 1696(a) is amended to read:

(a) Qualifications of applicants. An applicant shall submit to the Secretary
evidence satisfactory to the Secretary that the applicant ~~either has completed:~~

(1) completed all requirements of an approved educator preparation
program or has otherwise acquired the knowledge and skills required for a

1 license through coursework and experiences apart from an approved educator
2 preparation program; and

3 (2) completed at least one three-credit course in African American
4 history at an accredited college or university, covering the period from the
5 European colonization of North America through the end of the 20th century.

6 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

7 This act shall take effect on passage, provided that the requirement to
8 complete at least one three-credit course in African American history under
9 Sec. 1 of this act shall apply to applications submitted to the Secretary on or
10 after July 1, 2022.