

Substitute Teacher Shortage Legislation

IEA Position- SUPPORT

The Illinois Education Association supports the legislative initiatives outlined below that seek to address the shortage and need for substitute teachers throughout the State. These initiatives help to provide additional options to school districts without lowering the requirements for substitute teacher licensure.

House Bills

- HB 751 (Davidsmeyer) amends the Downstate Teacher Article of the Pension Code to allow that through June 30, 2020, a retired teacher can return to teaching in a subject shortage area without impairing his or her retirement annuity.
- HB3021 (Martwick) requires the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to implement a program by January 1, 2018, that would allow temporary staffing firms to contract with school districts to provide substitute teachers. This bill also contains legislative language that prohibits school districts from using temporary staffing firms to circumvent collective bargaining agreements.
- HB 3080, HA 1 (Reis) increases the amount of time for which a retired teacher may return to service without effecting or impairing retirement status. Beginning July 1, 2017, teachers would be able to work up to 120 paid days or 600 paid hours in a school year.
- HB 3298, HA 2 (Scherer) allows, beginning July 1, 2017, individuals who get a Substitute Teaching License for the first time, or at the point of renewal for individuals who currently hold a Substitute Teaching License, to apply for a refund of the application or registration fee if that person taught a minimum of 10 full school days within one year of issuance or renewal, whichever is applicable. The request for a refund must be made within 18 months of issuance or renewal.