

Bill Summary
1st Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 217
Version:	CS
Request No.:	2010
Author:	Sen. Thompson
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Committee Substitute (CS)

The CS for SB 217 requires the State Board of Education to implement a pilot program focused on creating alternative pathways to teacher certification and identifying providers to implement the pilot program. Providers may apply to participate in the program. The application requires providers to:

- 1) Provide evidence of fiscal solvency
- 2) Provide evidence that they have information to provide timely and accurate data
- 3) Have programs and policies in place protecting teacher candidate records
- 4) Possesses the instruction capacity to implement the program

Providers, defined in the measure as eligible entities that provide alternative teacher preparation, are required by the measure to offer teacher preparation courses with intensive preparation courses, a research-based approach, peer reviewed progress, and an evaluation process.

Additionally, providers must provide an evaluation process that will allow candidates to demonstrate subject pedagogy and content standard proficiency through nontraditional means. Candidates that complete the provider courses will be eligible for teacher certification. Providers are required by the measure to annually report completion rates to the State Department of Education. The Department may revoke a provider's approval if the Department determines the courses are substandard.

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