

House Bill No. 78, Amendment To. Teachers' Certificates, Provision for Renewal Of. Certificates, Professional and Others, Provision For Renewal Of. Renewal, of Teachers' Certificates.

Under House Bill No. 78, as amended, any person holding professional, first grade, second grade or third grade certificates under the law existing prior to passage of such bill may teach thereafter during the life of the certificate.

Any person holding a professional or first grade certificate may have the same renewed by the county superintendent; and any person holding an unexpired first grade, second grade, or third grade certificate, who makes application for examination for a higher grade certificate is entitled to be credited with the percentages on his last examination; provided such percentage is at least eighty per cent.

February 9, 1911.

Mr. W. E. Harmon,
Supt. Public Instruction,
Helena, Montana.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of February 8th, requesting me to prepare such amendment to House Bill No. 78, as will enable those now holding certificates to teach during the life of the certificate, and also providing that the professional and first grade certificates may be renewed as now provided by law, I beg to say:

That I have prepared such an amendment by striking out in lines 89 and 90 of page 5, of the bill, the following words:

“provided that this Act shall not affect any certificate now in force”

and insert in lieu thereof the following:

“provided that any person now holding a professional grade certificate, a first grade certificate, a second grade certificate or a third grade certificate shall be permitted to teach there-

under during the life of such certificate; and any person now holding a professional or first grade certificate may have the same renewed by the county superintendent upon the proper fee being paid to the institute fund as provided for in the case of examination, and provided that no such certificate shall be renewed unless the applicant has taught at least ten months during the life of such certificate; provided further that whenever application is made by any person now holding an unexpired first grade, second grade, or third grade Montana certificate for examination for any higher grade certificate provided for in this act, and it shall be made to appear to the county superintendent that such applicant has been engaged in teaching in any of the public schools of the state for a period of one year or more, said applicant shall be entitled to be credited with the percentage on his or her last examination for said first, second or third grade certificate, as the case may be, and shall not be required to be examined in any studies except the additional ones prescribed for such certificate and such other studies as the applicant may not have secured the required percentage on previous examination, provided that to excuse any person now holding a certificate from taking the examination upon any branch of any grade, he or she must have secured upon such branch at his or her last previous examination at least 80 per cent."

Under the bill as now amended, any person now holding a certificate to teach in this state may teach thereunder during the life of the certificate and any person holding a professional or first grade certificate may have the same renewed as now provided by law; and any person now holding an unexpired first grade certificate, or a second or third grade certificate, desiring to write for a higher grade will be entitled to the same credits as now provided by law.

This appears to meet all the objections that have been raised by any person to the bill as formerly worded

Yours very truly,

ALBERT J. GALEN,

Attorney General.