

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section  
5 22-95 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/22-95 new)

7 Sec. 22-95. Hiring or assigning priority.

8 (a) When hiring or assigning physical education, music,  
9 and visual arts educators, a school district must prioritize  
10 the hiring or assigning of educators who hold an educator  
11 license and endorsement in those content areas.

12 (b) A professional educator licensure applicant must pass  
13 the licensure content area test for the content area he or she  
14 is assigned to teach or complete at least 9 semester hours of  
15 coursework in the content area prior to his or her employment  
16 start date. In order to retain his or her employment for  
17 subsequent school years, the employee must complete the  
18 remaining hours of coursework in the content area in which he  
19 or she is teaching and apply for a license endorsement within 3  
20 calendar years after his or her employment start date.

21 (c) In the case of a reduction in force, a school district  
22 may follow its employee contract language for filling  
23 positions.