

Substitute Teaching Requirements Amendments

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Lincoln Fillmore

House Sponsor: Tracy J. Miller

LONG TITLE**General Description:**

This bill removes the requirement for a teaching license for a long-term substitute.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- removes the requirement for a teaching license for a long-term substitute.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:**AMENDS:**

53E-6-901, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 22

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **53E-6-901** is amended to read:

53E-6-901 . Substitute teachers.

(1) As used in this section, "substitute teacher" means a licensed or non-licensed individual who is employed by a school district to fill in for a regular classroom teacher during the teacher's temporary absence from the classroom.

(2) When hiring substitute teachers, school districts shall prioritize licensed educators as substitutes when available.

(3) An individual shall submit to a background check in accordance with Section 53G-11-402 prior to employment as a substitute teacher.

~~[(4) A teacher's position in the classroom may not be filled by a non-licensed substitute teacher for more than a total of 20 days during any school year unless a licensed educator is not available.]~~

~~[(5)]~~ (4) An individual who is ineligible to hold a license for reasons described in Title 53E,

31 Chapter 6, Part 6, License Denial and Discipline, may not serve as a substitute teacher.

32 Section 2. **Effective Date.**

33 This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.