New regulations skirt qualifications to teach in Nev.

By Trevon Milliard, Reno Gazette-Journal

Nevada's emergency change to teacher licensing simplifies hiring in a state short on public school teachers, but it also opens the door to those who don't meet basic expectations.

An emergency regulation — approved a month ago by Gov. Brian Sandoval — allows the state to immediately license teachers who've never taught in a classroom or tested competent in their subject matters, both of which Nevada usually requires to be a licensed teacher.

The regulation lets Nevada ignore up to a dozen of its own requirements per teacher, including that applicants show mastery of "principles and methods of teaching" and basic reading, writing and math skills.

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