

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 547 Session of  
2007

INTRODUCED BY O'NEILL, CALTAGIRONE, CREIGHTON, GINGRICH,  
HENNESSEY, PEIFER, READSHAW, REICHLEY, ROEBUCK, SIPTROTH,  
STERN AND SURRA, MARCH 6, 2007

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 6, 2007

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An  
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain  
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial  
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the  
5 laws relating thereto," further providing for  
6 disqualifications relative to teacher's certificate.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Section 1209 of the act of March 10, 1949  
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,  
11 amended April 15, 1959 (P.L.41, No.16) and June 24, 1959  
12 (P.L.485, No.110), is amended to read:

13 Section 1209. Disqualifications.--No teacher's certificate  
14 shall be granted to any person who:

15 (1) has not submitted, upon a blank furnished by the  
16 [Superintendent of Public Instruction] Secretary of Education, a  
17 certificate from a physician legally qualified to practice  
18 medicine in this Commonwealth, or in any other state or the  
19 District of Columbia or a physician's assistant or a certified

1 registered nurse practitioner (CRNP) licensed by the  
2 Commonwealth, setting forth that said applicant [is neither  
3 mentally nor physically disqualified, by reason of tuberculosis  
4 or any other communicable disease or by reason of mental  
5 disorder from successful performance of the duties of a teacher;  
6 nor to any person who has not a good moral character, or who is  
7 in the habit of using opium or other narcotic drugs in any form,  
8 or any intoxicating drink as a beverage, or to any applicant who  
9 has a major physical disability or defect unless such a person  
10 submits a certificate signed by an official of the college or  
11 university from which he was graduated or of an appropriate  
12 rehabilitation agency, certifying that in the opinion of such  
13 official the applicant, by his work and activities, demonstrated  
14 that he is sufficiently adjusted, trained and motivated to  
15 perform the duties of a teacher, notwithstanding his  
16 impediment.] has no current mental or physical impairment which  
17 prevents said applicant from performing the essential functions  
18 of a teaching position with or without reasonable accommodation;  
19 (2) is of bad moral character; or  
20 (3) has been convicted of a drug crime.  
21 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.