

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2678 Session of 2022

INTRODUCED BY CIRESI, JAMES, MADDEN, ISAACSON, SANCHEZ, HILL-
EVANS, SOLOMON, D. WILLIAMS, MALAGARI, CEPHAS, HOWARD,
SCHWEYER, N. NELSON, RABB, KAIL, A. DAVIS, McNEILL, BRIGGS,
CURRY, DELLOSO, YOUNG, MUSTELLO, LONGIETTI, KULIK, BONNER,
ORTITAY, FIEDLER, DALEY AND GLEIM, JUNE 15, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JUNE 15, 2022

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," in certification of teachers,
6 providing for dance teaching certificates.

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

9 Section 1. The act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known
10 as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a
11 section to read:

12 Section 1220. Dance Teaching Certificates.--(a) Consistent
13 with subsection (b), the department shall:

14 (1) Upon the effective date of this paragraph, consult with
15 nonprofit dance education organizations in this Commonwealth to
16 develop minimum requirements for professional certification in
17 dance education.

18 (2) After the consultation under paragraph (1) and within

ninety (90) days of the effective date of this paragraph, begin the process of promulgating regulations necessary to implement and issue Pennsylvania dance teaching certificates to qualified individuals.

(b) An applicant for professional certification in dance education shall meet the following minimum requirements:

(1) The completion of an undergraduate degree, along with course work equivalent to that of a dance major or dance minor.

(2) A demonstrated knowledge of and competence in applying the fundamental concepts of dance necessary for teaching in a kindergarten through grade twelve environment.

(3) A passing score on the appropriate subject area examination.

(4) The completion of requirements for supervised student teaching.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the department may issue a Pennsylvania dance teaching certificate to an individual who satisfies all of the following conditions:

(1) Has nontraditional education or experience in dance teaching, prior to the effective date of this subsection, which is equivalent to or exceeds the standards specified in the regulations promulgated under subsection (a)(2).

(2) Possesses a valid dance teaching certificate or endorsement issued by another state.

(3) Is not disqualified under section 1209.

(d) A Pennsylvania dance teaching certificate under this section shall qualify an individual to teach dance in the public schools of this Commonwealth.

(e) Except for a Pennsylvania dance teaching certificate, nothing under this section shall be construed to modify the

1 requirements for the issuance of a Pennsylvania instructional
2 certificate endorsed in another subject area.

3 (f) This section shall not apply to an individual who:

4 (1) has a current dance teaching certificate recognized or
5 issued by the department prior to the effective date of this
6 subsection; or

7 (2) is in the process of obtaining a dance teaching
8 certificate from the department in accordance with procedures
9 established by the department prior to the effective date of
10 this subsection.

11 (g) As used in this section, the following words and phrases
12 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless
13 the context clearly indicates otherwise:

14 "Department." The Department of Education of the
15 Commonwealth.

16 Section 2. This act shall take effect as follows:

17 (1) The following shall take effect immediately:

18 (i) This section.

19 (ii) The addition of section 1220(a) of the act.

20 (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect upon the
21 promulgation of the regulations under section 1220(a)(2) of
22 the act.