

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 847 Session of  
2007

INTRODUCED BY CONKLIN, ROEBUCK AND CALTAGIRONE, MARCH 19, 2007

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 19, 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 eligibility and  
6 for qualifications.

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

9 Section 1. Section 1003 of the act of March 10, 1949  
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,  
11 amended December 19, 1975 (P.L.511, No.150), is amended to read:

12 Section 1003. Eligibility.--[No] (a) Except as provided in  
13 subsection (b), no person shall be eligible for election or  
14 appointment as a district[, ] or assistant district  
15 superintendent[, unless--] unless all of the following apply:

16 (1) [He] The person holds a diploma from a college or other  
17 institution approved by the Department of Education[;].

18 (2) [He] The person has had six (6) years' successful  
19 teaching experience, not less than three of which shall have  
20 been in a supervisory or administrative capacity[;].

(3) [He] The person has completed in a college or university a graduate [course] program in education approved by the Department of Education[;]. Completion of the program shall not be subject to waiver under section 1714-B unless the candidate provides to the Secretary of Education evidence that the candidate has successfully completed an equivalent leadership development program that addresses the standards specified in regulations of the State Board of Education.

[(4) Provided that in] (b) (1) In school districts of the first class, five (5) years of administrative experience at the level of assistant, associate or deputy superintendent[, ] may be substituted for prescribed graduate administrative courses[, and which]. It shall be the responsibility of the Secretary of Education to review these equivalences to conform with State board regulations.

(2) Serving either as county, district[, ] or assistant county [or], district [superintendent, ] or associate superintendent, in this Commonwealth[, at the time this act becomes effective,] on July 1, 1949 or, in a school district of the first class, on January 1, 1950 shall, [irrespective of the foregoing requirements,] be considered sufficient qualification for [any of the aforesaid offices] assistant county, district or associate superintendent.

Section 2. Section 1109 of the act, amended March 19, 1970 (P.L.189, No.73), is amended to read:

Section 1109. Qualifications.--(a) Every teacher employed to teach in the public schools of this Commonwealth must be a person of good moral character, must be at least eighteen years of age, and must be a citizen of the United States: Provided, That citizenship may be waived in the case of exchange teachers

1 not permanently employed, and teachers employed for the purpose  
2 of teaching foreign languages, including special teachers who  
3 speak the idiomatic or colloquial language of immigrants  
4 residing in the school district, and employed for the purpose of  
5 easing the transition period of such immigrants.

6 (b) Every principal appointed after August thirty-first, one  
7 thousand nine hundred fifty-three, employed in the public  
8 schools of this Commonwealth, who devotes one-half or more of  
9 his time to supervision and administration, shall be properly  
10 certificated by the Department of Public Instruction in  
11 accordance with such standards as the State Board of Education  
12 may establish.

13 (c) Individuals who apply after January 1, 2008, for a  
14 certificate to become eligible to serve as a principal or  
15 assistant principal in a public school in this Commonwealth and  
16 who otherwise meet the requirements for the certificate shall be  
17 issued an Administrative I certificate. No individual may serve  
18 as a principal or assistant principal on an Administrative I  
19 certificate for more than five school years.

20 (d) The holder of an Administrative I certificate shall be  
21 issued as Administrative II certificate upon application to the  
22 department verifying three years of satisfactory service on an  
23 Administrative I certificate and successful completion of a  
24 professional development program for administrators as described  
25 in regulations of the State Board of Education.

26 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007, or  
27 immediately, whichever is later.