

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1386 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY PHILLIPS-HILL, GROVE, D. MILLER, RAPP, TALLMAN, WHEELAND, ZIMMERMAN AND WATSON, JUNE 12, 2017

AS AMENDED ON SECOND CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OCTOBER 18, 2017

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 instructional certificate grade spans and age
7 levels.

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

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

13 Section 1202.1. Instructional Certificate Grade Spans and
14 Age Levels.--(a) Notwithstanding 22 Pa. Code § 49.85 (relating
15 to limitations), the grade spans and age levels for
16 instructional certificates issued after December 31, 2019 2021, <--
17 shall be as follows:

18 (1) Early childhood - prekindergarten, kindergarten, grades
19 one (1) through four (4) or ages three (3) through nine (9).

20 (2) Elementary - kindergarten, grades one (1) through six

1 (6) or ages four (4) through eleven (11).

2 (3) Middle - grades six (6) through nine (9) or ages eleven
3 (11) through fifteen (15).

4 (4) Secondary - grades seven (7) through twelve (12) or ages
5 eleven (11) through twenty-one (21).

6 (5) Specialized areas - prekindergarten through grade twelve
7 (12) or up to age twenty-one (21).

8 (6) Special education - prekindergarten through grade twelve
9 (12) or up to age twenty-one (21). An additional content area
10 shall not be required for a special education certificate issued
11 in accordance with this section.

12 (b) Certificates issued in accordance with 22 Pa. Code §
13 49.85(a) and (b) shall remain valid for the term of the
14 certificate.

15 (c) An individual holding Elementary/Middle Certificates
16 issued in accordance with 22 Pa. Code § 49.85(b) (2) shall have
17 the opportunity to expand the scope of the individual's
18 certificate to meet the grade levels covered under subsection
19 (a) (2) and (3) by a process determined by the Department of
20 Education, which shall include, but not be limited to,
21 continuing education credits or the satisfactory outcome of a
22 PRAXIS assessment for the specific certification level.

23 (d) An individual holding Special Education-PK-8 and Special
24 Education-7-12 level certificates issued in accordance with 22
25 Pa. Code § 49.85(b) (5) and (6) shall have the opportunity to
26 expand the scope of the individual's certificate to meet the
27 grade levels covered under subsection (a) (6) by a process
28 determined by the Department of Education, which shall include,
29 but not be limited to, continuing education credits or the
30 satisfactory outcome of a PRAXIS assessment for the specific

1 certification level.

2 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.