

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 224 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY BARTOLOTTA, LANGERHOLC, ARGALL, STEFANO, J. WARD, PHILLIPS-HILL, MASTRIANO, TARTAGLIONE, PITTMAN, BAKER AND DUSH, FEBRUARY 11, 2021

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 11, 2021

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 repealing certificates issued by other states and providing
 7 for out-of-state applicants for certifications.

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

10 Section 1. Section 1206 of the act of March 10, 1949
 11 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is
 12 repealed:

13 [Section 1206. Certificates Issued by Other States.--(a)
 14 Candidates holding a valid instructional certificate issued by
 15 another state may be eligible for comparable Pennsylvania
 16 certification provided that the candidate meets the following
 17 requirements:

18 (1) Holds a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or
 19 university.

20 (2) Has at least two (2) years of successful classroom

1 experience.

2 (3) Demonstrates subject matter competency in the applicable
3 area of Pennsylvania certification.

4 (4) Satisfies the requirements of section 1209.

5 (b) The Secretary of Education shall adopt standards and
6 guidelines as necessary to implement this section.

7 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit
8 the Secretary of Education from certifying out-of-State
9 applicants in accordance with regulations of the Department of
10 Education or the State Board of Education.]

11 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

12 Section 1206.1. Out-of-State Applicants for Certification.--

13 (a) Candidates from other states seeking Pennsylvania
14 certification must satisfy one of the following:

15 (1) The candidate must hold a valid and current
16 instructional certificate issued by another state and satisfy
17 the following:

18 (i) Completion of a college or university educator
19 preparation program approved by the certifying state,
20 satisfaction of testing requirements demonstrating subject
21 matter competency in the applicable area of Pennsylvania
22 certification, including passage of equivalent content tests
23 required by the certifying state and field experience.

24 (ii) For a candidate who has taught on the out-of-state
25 certificate, presentation to the department evidence of
26 satisfactory professional educator experience for the
27 candidate's two most recent years of classroom teaching.

28 (2) The candidate must hold a valid certificate issued by
29 the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. A
30 candidate with a certificate shall be granted the highest-level

1 Pennsylvania certification available in the candidate's area of
2 certification.

3 (b) An out-of-state candidate who satisfies the requirements
4 of subsection (a) must also satisfy this Commonwealth's
5 requirements under sections 1202 and 1209.

6 (c) An out-of-state candidate who is seeking Pennsylvania
7 certification in a subject identified by the department as a
8 shortage area and meets the requirements of subsections (a) and
9 (b) shall be issued the appropriate certificate on an expedited
10 basis in accordance with this section.

11 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.