

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2493 Session of 2024

INTRODUCED BY MARCELL, FRIEL AND KHAN, JULY 11, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JULY 11, 2024

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, further
6 providing for instructional certificate grade spans and age
7 levels and duties of department.

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

10 Section 1. Section 1202.1 of the act of March 10, 1949
11 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is
12 amended by adding a subsection to read:

13 Section 1202.1. Instructional Certificate Grade Spans and
14 Age Levels and Duties of Department.--* * *

15 (a.1) The following shall apply to instructional
16 certificates:

17 (1) Notwithstanding 22 Pa. Code § 49.85, the grade span and
18 age levels for instructional certificates issued after December
19 31, 2027, shall be:

20 (i) Early childhood - prekindergarten, kindergarten, grades
21 one through five or three (3) through ten (10) years of age.

1 (ii) Elementary/Middle - grades four through eight or nine
2 (9) through fourteen (14) years of age. Elementary/Middle
3 certificates permit instruction in any subject in grades four,
4 five and six and in a core academic subject or subjects in
5 grades seven and eight.

6 (iii) Secondary - grades six through twelve or eleven (11)
7 through twenty-one (21) years of age.

8 (iv) Specialized areas - prekindergarten through grade
9 twelve or up through twenty-one (21) years of age.

10 (2) Certificates issued prior to the effective date of this
11 subsection in accordance with 22 Pa. Code § 49.85 shall remain
12 valid for the term of the certificate.

13 (3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a teacher preparation
14 program of an institution of higher education may permit an
15 individual who is enrolled at the institution of higher
16 education or in an approved alternative preparation program
17 prior to December 31, 2025, and who remains continuously
18 enrolled in the program, to complete the program for the grade
19 level limitations provided under 22 Pa. Code § 49.85(b). The
20 department may issue the appropriate instructional certificate
21 to an applicant who completes the program and meets all other
22 certification requirements.

23 * * *

24 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.