

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

**SENATE BILL**

No. **1011** Session of  
2009

INTRODUCED BY DINNIMAN, FOLMER, M. WHITE, BOSCOLA, FONTANA,  
GREENLEAF, HUGHES, RAFFERTY, STOUT, WARD, WASHINGTON,  
WILLIAMS AND COSTA, JULY 10, 2009

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, JULY 10, 2009

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 certificates  
6 qualifying persons to teach and for kinds of State  
7 certificates; and providing for residency certificates.

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

10 Section 1. Section 1201 of the act of March 10, 1949  
11 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,  
12 amended January 14, 1970 (1969 P.L.468, No.192), is amended to  
13 read:

14 Section 1201. Certificates Qualifying Persons to Teach.--  
15 Only those persons holding one of the following certificates  
16 shall be qualified to teach in the public schools of this  
17 Commonwealth--(1) Permanent college certificate, (2) provisional  
18 college certificate, (3) normal school diploma, (4) normal  
19 school certificate, (5) special permanent certificate, (6)  
20 special temporary certificate, (7) permanent State certificate,

1 (8) residency certificate, (9) certificates which are permanent  
2 licenses to teach by virtue of the provisions of section one  
3 thousand three hundred eight of the act, approved the eighteenth  
4 day of May, one thousand nine hundred eleven (Pamphlet Laws  
5 309), as amended, which is repealed hereby, or [(9)] (10) such  
6 other kinds of certificates as are issued under the standards  
7 prescribed by the State Board of Education. The State Board of  
8 Education shall also provide for issuance of certificates by  
9 district superintendents to meet such emergencies or shortage of  
10 teachers as may occur.

11 Section 2. Section 1203 of the act is amended to read:

12 Section 1203. Kinds of State Certificates.--State  
13 certificates hereafter granted shall include the following:

14 Provisional College Certificates,

15 Permanent College Certificates,

16 Certificates issued by other states and validated by the  
17 Superintendent of Public Instruction,

18 Special Temporary Certificates,

19 Special Permanent Certificates[.].

20 Residency Certificates.

21 All persons receiving any of such certificates shall have  
22 qualifications not less than graduation from a State Teachers'  
23 College of this Commonwealth, or equivalent training. Residency  
24 certificate program training completed under section 1207.1  
25 shall be considered equivalent training for purposes of this  
26 act.

27 Every college certificate shall set forth the names of the  
28 college or university from which its holder was graduated. State  
29 certificates shall entitle their holders to teach in every part  
30 of this Commonwealth for the terms herein specified.

1 Section 3. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

2 Section 1207.1. Residency Certificates.--(a) The Secretary  
3 of Education may make a one-time issuance of a residency  
4 certificate for service in a specific shortage area of  
5 instruction in public schools of this Commonwealth to an  
6 applicant who meets all of the following:

7 (1) Satisfies the requirements specified under section 1209.

8 (2) Meets one of the following:

9 (i) Holds a doctoral degree from an accredited college or  
10 university in the subject area of shortage.

11 (ii) Holds a master's degree from an accredited college or  
12 university in the subject area of shortage and has at least two  
13 years of work experience in the subject area or related field.

14 (iii) Holds a bachelor's degree from an accredited college  
15 or university in the subject area of shortage and has at least  
16 five years of work experience in the subject area or related  
17 field.

18 (3) Is continuously enrolled in an approved residency  
19 program.

20 (4) Presents evidence of satisfactory achievement on the  
21 appropriate subject area content test.

22 (b) A residency certificate shall be valid for three years  
23 of teaching in the public schools of this Commonwealth in the  
24 area for which it applies.

25 (c) The secretary shall have all of the following powers and  
26 duties related to the issuance of residency certificates:

27 (1) Identify areas of certification in which there is a  
28 Statewide or regional shortage of qualified teachers.

29 (2) Develop guidelines for the residency program which shall  
30 include:

1 (i) Preplacement instruction and training.

2 (ii) Instruction and training in the following:

3 (A) Educational strategies for the designated subject area  
4 for which the residency certificate is issued.

5 (B) Child development specifically related to the level of  
6 the certificate sought.

7 (C) Emotional support.

8 (D) Pennsylvania academic standards.

9 (E) Assessment knowledge and skills.

10 (F) Pennsylvania standards and aligned system knowledge.

11 (iii) Requirements for oversight and mentoring that include  
12 induction, classroom observations and professional development  
13 for the certificate holder during the three years of service in  
14 the public schools of this Commonwealth.

15 (3) Approve all residency programs.

16 (4) Issue residency certificates to qualified applicants.

17 (5) Report annually to the State Board of Education on the  
18 number of residency certificates issued under this section.

19 (d) A residency certificate may be converted to an  
20 Instructional I Certificate upon the completion of all residency  
21 program requirements under Department of Education guidelines  
22 and the completion of three years of satisfactory teaching in  
23 the public schools of this Commonwealth.

24 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.