
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1386 Session of
2017

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

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JUNE 12, 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, shall
17 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.