

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 5417**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**220th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED MAY 8, 2023

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT**

**District 6 (Burlington and Camden)**

**Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY**

**District 27 (Essex and Morris)**

**Assemblywoman LISA SWAIN**

**District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Senator M. TERESA RUIZ**

**District 29 (Essex)**

**Senator RENEE C. BURGESS**

**District 28 (Essex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman Matsikoudis, Assemblyman Stanley, Assemblywomen McKnight, Reynolds-Jackson, Assemblymen Conaway, Freiman, Wimberly, Assemblywomen Lopez, Carter, Senators Diegnan, Gopal and Pou**

**SYNOPSIS**

Prohibits limiting number of county college credits that may be applied towards educator preparation program and teacher certification requirements.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Higher Education Committee on November 20, 2023, with amendments.

**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/21/2023)**

1 AN ACT concerning teacher certification and supplementing chapter  
2 26 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. <sup>1</sup>a.<sup>1</sup> Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
8 contrary, a Commissioner-approved <sup>1</sup>[college]<sup>1</sup> educator  
9 preparation program shall not restrict the number of semester-hour  
10 credits <sup>1</sup>[earned in the field of professional education] of  
11 professional education coursework completed<sup>1</sup> at <sup>1</sup>[a] an  
12 accredited<sup>1</sup> county college that may be accepted toward meeting the  
13 <sup>1</sup>[program's]<sup>1</sup> requirements for teacher certification<sup>1</sup>, except as  
14 may be otherwise required by the program's accrediting  
15 organization.

16 <sup>1</sup>b. As used in this section, "professional education coursework"  
17 means coursework required to obtain teacher certification, including  
18 courses in child development, language development, curriculum  
19 development, and methods of instruction.<sup>1</sup>

20

21 2. <sup>1</sup>a.<sup>1</sup> The State Board of Education shall not adopt any  
22 regulation or policy which restricts the number of semester-hour  
23 credits <sup>1</sup>[earned in the field of professional education] of  
24 professional education coursework completed<sup>1</sup> at <sup>1</sup>[a regionally]  
25 an<sup>1</sup> accredited county college that may be accepted toward meeting  
26 the requirements for teacher certification, provided that the credits  
27 are accepted by a <sup>1</sup>[State-approved college professional education]  
28 Commissioner-approved educator<sup>1</sup> preparation program.

29 <sup>1</sup>b. As used in this section, "professional education coursework"  
30 means coursework required to obtain teacher certification, including  
31 courses in child development, language development, curriculum  
32 development, and methods of instruction.<sup>1</sup>

33

34 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly AHI committee amendments adopted November 20, 2023.