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

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

1. 1a. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a Commissioner-approved [college] educator preparation program shall not restrict the number of semester-hour credits [earned in the field of professional education] of professional education coursework completed at [a] an accredited[ ] county college that may be accepted toward meeting the [program’s] requirements for teacher certification, except as may be otherwise required by the program’s accrediting organization.

1b. As used in this section, “professional education coursework” means coursework required to obtain teacher certification, including courses in child development, language development, curriculum development, and methods of instruction. 1

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

1b. As used in this section, “professional education coursework” means coursework required to obtain teacher certification, including courses in child development, language development, curriculum development, and methods of instruction. 1

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:
1Assembly AHI committee amendments adopted November 20, 2023.