

ASSEMBLY, No. 5418

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 8, 2023

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman REGINALD W. ATKINS

District 20 (Union)

Assemblyman ANTHONY S. VERRELLI

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman WILLIAM W. SPEARMAN

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Stanley, Assemblywoman Reynolds-Jackson, Assemblyman Benson, Assemblywomen Speight, Jasey, Mosquera, Assemblymen Moen, Wimberly and Coughlin

SYNOPSIS

Establishes Teacher Certification Reimbursement Fund in DOE to reimburse certain teachers for costs associated with certification.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/25/2023)

1 AN ACT establishing the Teacher Certification Reimbursement
2 Fund in the Department of Education and supplementing Title
3 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. There is established in the Department of Education a fund
9 to be known as the “Teacher Certification Reimbursement Fund.”
10 The fund shall be used to reimburse the costs associated with
11 certification for new teachers, and teachers who hold a valid
12 instructional certificate and are seeking an additional grade level or
13 subject area endorsement, who meet certain criteria. The costs
14 associated with certification shall include, but not be limited to,
15 fingerprinting requirements, testing requirements, and fees for
16 issuing certificates.

17 b. The fund shall be maintained in a separate account and
18 administered by the Commissioner of Education to carry out the
19 provisions of this act. The fund shall consist of: any monies
20 appropriated by the State for the purposes of the fund; any monies
21 donated for the purposes of the fund; and all interest and investment
22 earnings received on monies in the fund. Monies in the fund shall
23 not be used by the department for any administrative costs
24 associated with the implementation of this act.

25 c. The State Board of Education shall adopt, pursuant to the
26 “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410
27 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), rules and regulations necessary for the
28 implementation of this act including, but not limited to: the criteria
29 that a teacher is required to demonstrate in order to be eligible to
30 receive monies from the fund, including an income qualification;
31 any limitations on the total amount that may be received by a
32 teacher from the fund; the specific types of costs that may be
33 reimbursed with monies from the fund; and the supporting
34 documentation to be submitted in order to receive reimbursement
35 from the fund.

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37 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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40 STATEMENT

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42 This bill establishes the “Teacher Certification Reimbursement
43 Fund” in the Department of Education. The purpose of the fund is
44 to reimburse certain new teachers for the costs associated with
45 certification, including fingerprinting requirements, testing
46 requirements, and fees for issuing certificates. The fund is to also
47 be used for the costs associated with certification for certain
48 teachers holding instructional certificates who are seeking

1 additional grade level or subject area endorsements. The fund is to
2 consist of: any monies appropriated by the State for the purposes of
3 the fund; any monies donated for the purposes of the fund; and all
4 interest and investment earnings received on monies in the fund.
5 Under the provisions of the bill, the State Board of Education is
6 required to adopt rules and regulations necessary for the
7 implementation of the bill, including: the criteria that a teacher is
8 required to demonstrate in order to be eligible to receive monies
9 from the fund, such as an income qualification; any limitations on
10 the total amount that may be received by a teacher from the fund;
11 the specific types of costs that may be reimbursed with monies from
12 the fund; and the supporting documentation to be submitted in order
13 to receive reimbursement from the fund.